MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 MARCH 1982

Syria

Habib Mission -- U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib arrived in Damascus and was received by Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, SANA reported. According to Monte Carlo radio, Habib subsequently met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

Hamah Situation -- Damascus radio reported that 100,000 Hamah residents staged an angry march in the city to denounce the crimes of the Muslim Brotherhood. An official told the crowd that the Iraqi and Jordanian rulers will be called to account for their financial and military support to the Brotherhood. In a speech to the demonstrators a Hamah shaykh denied rebel claims that the Syrian Ba'th Party bans citizens from performing religious rites. The radio also broadcast several interviews with Hamah citizens who provided further details of the events of 3 February. Among the interviewees were several Muslim Brotherhood members, one of whom said the Hamah uprising had brought about the end of the organization and was a desperate move following firm measures by security forces against Brotherhood bases in the Hamah region. He asserted that some Arab countries such as Jordan and Iraq took advantage of the Brotherhood and sent it large quantities of weapons.

PNF Statement -- In a statement carried by the radio, the Central Command of the Progressive National Front accused imperialist-Zionist forces of goading the Muslim Brotherhood into causing domestic trouble in Hamah. Warning that plots against Syria's steadfastness will continue, the statement said increasing economic pressures against Syria will necessitate austerity measures. It also said that Syria will do its utmost to achieve greater cohesion with the Palestinian revolution and thwart plots to undermine Syrian-Palestinian unity, and that Syria's friendship with the Soviet Union will be strengthened.

Jordan

Commentary on Habib Mission -- Asserting that Israel is making immoral use of Philip Habib's mission, Amman radio said it would not be surprising if Israel takes advantage of Habib's fourth tour of the region to launch a wide-scale attack on Lebanon, regardless of the embarrassment it may cause to the U.S. administration. Noting that Israel has cited Habib as praising Israel's restraint toward the Palestinians and as reconfirming Israeli statements justifying an attack, the radio said there is no doubt that Habib will deny what the Israeli media have attributed to him because a mediator can never use the language of one of the conflicting parties at the expense of truth and reality.

Al-Yarmuk Volunteers -- King Husayn bade farewell to the first batch of the Al-Yarmuk forces to leave for Iraq, Petra-JNA noted. According to Monte Carlo radio, informed sources in Amman revealed that over 5,000 volunteers have so far joined the Al-Yarmuk forces.

Lebanon

During the night shore-based artillery fired at Israeli helicopters and boats that were reconnoitering the southern coast up to west Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The radio also said a car bomb explosion in Tripoli wounded 14 persons, including 8 Syrian Arab Deterrent Force (ADF) soldiers. A clash between an ADF patrol and armed members of the popular resistance in Tripoli likewise caused casualties, the radio added.

Israel

No-Confidence Motion Defeat -- By a vote of 58 to 4 with 43 abstentions, the Knesset defeated the no-confidence motion introduced by the Tehiya faction, IDF radio reported.

In a speech against the motion, carried by Jerusalem radio, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said IDF forces were brought to the Yamit area to prevent bloodshed. He announced that on 3 March the IDF will begin evacuating from the Sinai all those who are not permanent

residents, and noted that as he was speaking, yeshiva students were already being evacuated from Ofira. Though calling it a tragedy, Sharon said the Sinai withdrawal is a commitment and Israel will carry it out. He accused withdrawal opponents of harming security by diverting the IDF from its normal duties, straining a tight defense budget, harming Israel politically and sowing disunity. He urged the antiwithdrawal movement to remove its own people and not force the government to do it.

In his summing up address carried by IDF radio, Prime Minister Menahem Begin declared that sacrifices for the sake of peace are better than the sacrifices demanded by war, and proclaimed that Israel will honor all commitments undertaken in the Camp David accords and peace treaty with Egypt.

Border Dispute -- A HA'ARETZ commentary pointed out that despite Israel's evacuation measures, the government has made it unambiguously clear that if negotiations to demarcate the final border with Egypt are not concluded before 26 April, Israel will not move from the present line. Whereas Egypt wants to determine the border according to the 1948-49 armistice lines, Israel insists on the 1906 line as required by the peace treaty, the paper explained. Although the disagreements involve only 2 km at one site and 500 meters at another, the paper cited Sharon's statement that withdrawing before the border's demarcation would be sowing the seeds of disaster.

Egypt

Autonomy Committee -- Egypt reiterated its opposition to Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the meeting in Cairo of the tripartite committee on Palestinian autonomy, MENA reported.

Mubarak Visit to Israel -- President Husni Mubarak told foreign journalists that he will determine later whether to visit Jerusalem during his forthcoming visit to Israel, MENA reported.

Libya

In a speech broadcast by Tripoli radio, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi castigated Saudi Arabia for flooding the oil market with cheap oil and said Libya should train over 1 million citizens to use modern weapons to ensure that the United States is incapable of occupying Libya. Asserting that Libyans used to feel ashamed at the presence of U.S. companies in their country, Al-Qadhdhafi said there is no longer room for any U.S. company in Libya.

Saudi Arabia

Response to Al-Qadhdhafi -- Dismissing Al-Qadhdhafi's speech as trivialities and lies, a "responsible source" cited by Riyadh radio said the attack on the kingdom was not surprising from a man accustomed to harming Arab relations, dividing Arabs and standing with the enemies of Arabs and Muslims.

Denial of AWACS Restrictions -- In an exclusive statement reported by the London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz denied a statement attributed to a Pentagon source that Saudi Arabia signed an agreement with the United States incorporating restrictions or conditions on the use of the five AWACS aircraft purchased by the kingdom. The minister denied completely that an American crew will take part in flying and operating the aircraft.

Iran

An Iranian Government statement broadcast by Tehran radio announced Iran's agreement to the exchange of visits by families of POW's via Kuwait and Turkey and under International Red Cross supervision. However, Iran is opposed to the Iraqi suggestion that the exchange start on 15 March, the statement said, and suggests any other date.

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'ARAFAT HANDED MESSAGE FROM GDR PRESIDENT

NC030834 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Last night, brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received the GDR ambassador in Beirut who handed him a message from President Erich Honecker. The meeting was also attended by member of the Fatah Central Committee Hani al-Hasan, and the director of the Political Bureau, Brother Abu Ja'far.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also met yesterday with former Lebanese Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam. Also attending the meeting were brother members of the Fatah Central Committee Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Abu al-Walid [Brig Gen Sa'd Sayil] as well as Jamil Kubbah. The meeting dealt with a number of developments and Lebanese and Arab affairs.

Meanwhile, Lebanese Speaker Kamil al-As'ad phoned Abu 'Ammar to enquire about his health following his recuperation from his recent illness.

QADDUMI TO VISIT ITALY, MEET POPE IN APRIL

JN021714 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, will visit Italy around the middle of next month at the official invitation of the Italian foreign minister. Our correspondent learned that Brother Abu al-Lutf will meet with Italian President Alessandro Pertini and Pope John Paul II.

ABU JIHAD: U.S., ISRAEL PREPARE FOR AGGRESSION

PM010835 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 20 Feb 82 pp 1, 7

[Unattributed report on statements to AS-SAFIR by Fatah Central Committee member Abu Jihad -- date and place not given]

[Text] Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), Fatah Central Committee member and deputy commander in chief of the Al-'Asifah forces [military wing of Fatah], has told AS-SAFIR that the possibility of enemy aggression against southern Lebanon is still there and the resistance is still receiving information of Israel's preparations for the expected aggression.

He added: What is being said about U.S. pressure on Israel to dissuade it from committing aggression is only a trick and part of the aggression plan against the Palestinian revolution. He pointed out that the United States and Israel are actually preparing for this aggression. He added that Israeli Chief of Military Intelligence Yehushua Sagi's visit to the United States and his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig confirm the coordination between the U.S. administration and Menahem Begin's government against the Palestinian revolution.

Sagi, he said, took to the United States the plans for the new Israeli aggression against the Palestinian resistance and against the Palestinian and Lebanon people. He added that other meetings were held between U.S. and Israeli officials for the purpose of making preparations for this aggression.

Khalil al-Wazir added: The contacts held and information available to us indicate that the United States has given Israel the green light to carry out a qualitative military operation against the PLO forces and the joint forces in southern Lebanon, a limited operation, not a large-scale one that might carry with it the threat of an all-out war in the region.

Abu Jihad emphasized that the Palestinian leadership and the Palestinian Military Council are closely watching the situation and that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is holding contacts at the international and Arab levels to deter Israel and prevent it from committing a new aggression.

He added: "'Arafat has sent messages to President Fidel Castro in his capacity as head of the Nonaligned Movement, to King Khalid of Saudi Arabia as chairman of the Islamic Conference, and to Chedli Klibi as secretary general of the Arab League."

Continuing, he said: "These figures, as well as the Soviet Union and the socialist states, have begun extensive activity aimed at bringing pressure to bear on Israel to prevent it from carrying out its aggression."

Referring to the continuous flow of statements by enemy leaders threatening aggression, Abu Jihad said the aim of these statements is to embarrass the Palestinian resistance leaders, intimidate the Palestinian and Lebanese people and drive a wedge between them.

He affirmed that the military position of the joint forces is good and that they stand ready to repulse any attack. He also expressed confidence that the people of the south will adopt the same positions as the Palestinian resistance in defense of the south and of the Litani River, which Israel covets.

AS-SAFIR ON U.S.-ARAB-ISRAELI SECRET MEETING

PM261623 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 20 Feb 82 pp 1, 7

[Shawqi Rafi' report from Washington: "More Information About the Secret Meeting in Washington]

[Text] AS-SAFIR has learned from Arab and American informed sources that the American-Arab-Israeli secret meeting was held at the Gramercy Inn near the White House on 4 February.

The 4-hour meeting, which AS-SAFIR reported at the time, was attended on the Arab side by Dr Hisham Sharabi, president of the American-Palestinian education foundation; Dr Fu'ad 'Ajami, head of the Middle Eastern studies center at Johns Hopkins University; and Dr Emile Nakhlah, a researcher at "American Enterprise," which is a conservative Republican foundation.

Dr 'Anjami has told AS-SAFIR: "I believe that the aim of that meeting was to convey a message from the White House to the PLO."

Before we go into the details of the U.S. message to the PLO, we should mention that whereas Charles Percy, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that 20 people attended the meeting, 'Ajami said that the meeting was in fact attended by 25 people, including some Americans, American Israelis, Israelis from the occupied territory and American Arabs. The following are known to have attended: Ruth Dayan, widow of Moshe Dayan; Edgar Bronfman of the American Jewish Congress, who met with President Husni Mubarak when he was in Washington recently; Mark (Brozinski), a liberal Jewish intellectual whose article urging the transformation of the PLO from a revolutionary into a political organization whithout a military structure caused much controversy in the United States; Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, former president of the American Jewish Congress, who is opposed to Israeli Prime Minister Begin's policies; Donald (El'azar), author of the book "Federalism" maintaining that a federation between the West Bank and Israel is the only possible solution, and the son of the Israeli General Matatyahu Peled, now living in the United States.

As for those who attended the meeting on the American side, we have the following information: The invitation to the meeting came from the White House. The White House's invitation said that Presidential Adviser on National Security Affairs William Clark would attend in addition to a number of prominent advisers, including Percy and some State Department representatives. Those who in fact attended the meeting were Percy and his assistant Scott Quinn, (Jan Mclroy) from the State Department, Billy Nolan from the White House and four other advisers.

It had earlier been reported that White House Senior Adviser on Middle Eastern Affairs Geoffrey Kemp attended the meeting, but this was denied by those present.

On the topics discussed, Dr 'Ajami said: Four main points were raised. The first was in a written analysis by (El'azar) emphasizing that a federation between the West Bank and Israel is the only possible solution to the Palestinian problem because Israel will not under any circumstances withdraw from the occupied territories. He presented economic data to show that the economies of the West Bank and Israel are already integrated or almost integrated.

The second point was raised by Billy Nolan. In a written statement, he said the present structure of the PLO leaves the United States no room for dialogue with it, and therefore another way must be sought.

A State Department representative made the third point. He said: "We want you to think about federation as a practical proposal."

The fourth point came from Senator Charles Percy who affirmed that "the United States will not accept from Israel any new surprises that might endanger U.S. interests. The Saudi plan, especially clause seven of it, could be the solution, and the United States should accept and support this plan, but only after the Arabs accept it."

Dr 'Ajami added: "The White House stuck rigidly to its position at the meeting. During the discussions its representative stuck to a written statement and never departed from it. Even when I said to him that the statement meant recognition of the fait accompli which Israel is trying to impose, he could provide no answer other than going back to the written statement and reading some parts of it."

'Ajami added that the meeting showed that the White House meant to signal to the PLO that its present structure stands in the way of its participation in any future dialogue between the Palestinians and the United States.

'Ajami continued: "The Arab participants pointed out that the talk of federation was meaningless and even lacked academic accuracy."

A certain Palestinian leadership in the United States, which asked not to be identified, maintains that the attendance of an Israeli delegation was significant and that the meeting was part of a series of moves meant to convey certain messages through various channels to the following effect: "Either you [Palestinians] settle the matter among yourselves in such a way as to bring about a change in the present structure in favor of the 'moderates', leaving in the PLO those capable of dialogue with the United States, or have the 'extremists' make concessions and accept something less than a state, which is rejected by Israel, or have Palestinians join the Arab line through the Saudi initiative."

GULF

OFFICIALS VIEW DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PDRY

GF030856 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0750 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Ad-Dammam, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- Press reports said here today that the visit which PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made to the UAE yesterday was part of a political move during which the PDRY leader will discuss the Muscat-Aden disputes and the security situation in the Gulf region.

Quoting Gulf diplomatic sources, the Saudi newspaper AL-YAWM reports that the establishment of diplomatic relations between Aden and Abu Dhabi is not ruled out.

Meanwhile, a Kuwaiti diplomatic source has stressed to AL-YAWM that the UAE's efforts to resolve the dispute between Aden and Muscat have achieved some progress. He pointed out that these differences are of external origin and they do not stem from the Gulf and consequently, resolving them is easy and they will end when the two parties decide they should.

The Kuwaiti diplomatic source noted the visit which YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih recently made to the countries of the region, and said: The visit was to discuss the disputes between Aden and Muscat and this is part of the YAR's policy to heal the rift and restore Arab solidarity in order to face the challenges menacing the Arab nation. The source revealed that President Salih called for understanding by the Gulf countries of the situation in the Horn of Africa and the Indian Ocean.

On the otherhand, an Omani diplomatic source denied to AL-YAWM that the UAE had agreed to establish diplomatic relations with Aden. He said the PDRY officials asked for this, but it was ruled out that Abu Dhabi would agree to this during leader 'Ali Nasir's current visit and under the current circumstances.

Meanwhile, in a statement to AL-YAWM, a Bahraini source did not rule out that the establishment of diplomatic relations between Bahrain and the PDRY would be discussed during 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's visit in Manama in mid-November, which is to be immediately followed by a similar visit to Doha.

'Ali Nasir stated after the two visits that he discussed bilateral relations, the Arab situation, the region's stability and security and the strengthening of cooperation on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty and independence.

KUWAIT

U.S. OFFICIAL VELIOTES MEETS DEPUTY PREMIER

LD021422 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1325 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Mar (KUNA) -- Nicholas Veliotes, U.S. asistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, had a meeting today with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister, foreign minister and minister of information.

It has been officially announced that during the meeting "the Middle East question in general and the Palestinian question in particular were discussed in addition to the development of events in the region."

An official spokesman has stated that Kuwait told the American official "of its views on several issues and of its firm and clear stand on the basic issues discussed." However, he gave no other details about the meeting which was attended by Kuwait Foreign Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid and the U.S. ambassador to Kuwait.

OIL REVENUES DROP 'SUBSTANTIALLY' OCT-DEC 81

LD021830 Kuwait KUNA in English 1510 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Mar (KUNA) -- During the fiscal year 1980-81, oil revenues dropped substantially by 25 percent, the quarterly statistical bulletin of the Central Bank (October-December, 81) said Tuesday.

The drop was attributed to a number of factors including the establishment of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation [KPC] and its undertakings of LPG and refined products operations.

Those operations resulted in the transfer of part of the oil revenues to KPC, thus limiting the revenues to the sale of crude oil, natural gas, taxes and royalties from oil companies.

A reduction of crude oil production, in accordance with the government resolution to reduce the production ceiling to 1.25 million barrels a day, coupled with the conditions of supply and demand prevailing in world oil markets, was a second cause.

Other factors which led to the drop were the relative stability in oil prices and the general downward trend in these prices particularly in the second half of the fiscal year 1980/81.

The substantial rise in income from investments has partly compensated for the decrease in oil revenues, thus maintaining the rate of decline in the total public revenues within 8.1 percent below their level in the previous year, those statistics indicated.

QATAR

TUNISIAN PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES FROM RIYADH

GF021102 Doha QNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Doha, 2 Mar (QNA) -- Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali arrived here from Riyadh today. He is leading a delegation on a 3-day official visit to Qatar.

Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, led those who received the Tunisian prime minister upon arrival.

Talks Held

GF021449 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1235 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 1 Mar (WAKH) -- Talks were held in Doha today between Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali.

The talks dealt with means of bolstering political and economic bilateral relations, current Arab and international issues and a number of issues of concern to the Arab nation, particularly the means of restoring Arab solidarity.

On the Qatari side, the talks were attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense; Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, minister of finance and oil; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Ali ibn Ahmad al-Ansari, minister of labor and social affairs and head of the honorary delegation accompanying the Tunisian prime minister; 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, minister of information; and Rashid Muhammad al-Khatir, the Qatari ambassador to Tunisia.

On the Tunisian side, the talks were attended by Mansour Moalla, minister of planning and finance; Mahmoud al-Mestiri, minister of foreign affairs; and Mohamed al-Mahrez, the Tunisian ambassador to Qatar.

Radio Interview

GF021441 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1312 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 2 Mar (WAKH) -- Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali has said his visit to the Gulf comes within the framework of consultations, the exchange of information and the creation of a favorable climate for Arab solidarity.

In answer to a question on how to achieve Arab solidarity at the forthcoming Fes summit, Mzali said: The Saudi plan has now become an Arab plan that can be studied, added to or amended. He asserted that this plan could serve as an alternative framework in view of the failure of the Camp David accords.

In an interview with Qatari radio broadcast today the Tunisian prime minister expressed support for Iraq's desire to include the Iraqi-Iranian war among the topics on the Fes summit's agenda.

In answer to a question on the unity of the Arab Maghreb and the difficulties that lie in the way of achieving such unity, Mzali declared that he supports the unity of Arab ranks and efforts to achieve unity in all fields. He said he believes in the establishment of some regional unions similar to the GCC. Mzali explained that the unity of the Arab Maghreb is not a merger union. He said it should be a unity that safeguards existing entities -- a functional and organic union that ensures economic and educational integration as a prelude to the efforts to achieve pan-Arab [qawmi] unity.

The Tunisian prime minister expressed the hope that the integration agreement between Libya and Tunisia will put an end to Libya's objection to Tunisia's membership of OAPEC.

Mzali said Egypt's return to the Arab fold depends on Egypt changing its policy in stages. He said he does not envy Egyptian President Husni Mubarak for what he inherited following the assassination of the late Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat.

Asked about the possibility of the return of the Arab League's headquarters to Egypt the Tunisian prime minister said that the Arabs cannot meet in Cairo as long as the Israeli flag flies there.

AMIR RECEIVES JORDANIAN MILITARY COMMANDER

GF021120 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 0945 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, received in his office at Ad-Dawhah Palace this morning staff Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and the delegation accompanying him.

The meeting was attended by Brig Gen Muhammad 'Abdallah al-'Atiyah, deputy commander in chief of the Qatari Armed Forces, and Dr Khalid al-'Ubaydat, Jordanian ambassador in Doha.

UAE OIL MINISTER ARRIVES FROM RIYADH 2 MAR

GF021934 Doha QNA in Arabic 1850 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 2 Mar (WNA) -- UAE Minister of Petroleum and National Resources Dr Mani' Sa'id al-Utaybah arrived in Doha from Riyadh this evening leading a UAE delegation on a brief visit to Qatar.

The UAE minister was received at the airport by Qatari Minister of Finance and Oil Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani.

Conveys Message To Amir

GF030600 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2010 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 2 Mar (WAKH) -- Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, has received a verbal message from Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the UAE president, on the coordination of a number of issues of mutual interest, particularly petroleum and energy affairs.

The message was conveyed by UAE Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah when he was received by the amir of Qatar today. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and minister of defense; and Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari minister of finance and oil.

SAUDI ARABIA

MINISTER: NO AGREEMENT TO RESTRICT AWACS USE

PM021619 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Mar 82 p 1

[Nasir ash-Shahri report: "Amir Sultan Assures ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Saudi Arabia Did Not Sign Any Agreement With United States on Operating AWACS"]

[Excerpt] Jidda -- The Saudi Arabian Kingdom has denied that it signed an agreement with the United States incorporating restrictions or conditions on the operation and use of the five AWACS aircraft which it bought.

This denial came in an exclusive statement which Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz made to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT commenting on a statement which foreign news agencies attributed to a Pentagon source. It is alleged in the statement that Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger signed an agreement with his Saudi counterpart Amir Sultan during his recent visit to Riyadh. The agreement is said to contain conditions and restrictions on the operation of AWACS aircraft which President Reagan allegedly promised the U.S. Congress would be obtained in return for ratifying the deal which for a whole year aroused controversy between the Senate and the U.S. administration.

Amir Sultan told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that "this report is unfounded." He added: "These falsehoods that are being disseminated by Zionist elements harboring hatred for Islam and all the Arab nation are nothing new. We have heard many of the customary lies from our enemies. An example of this was the great uproar in the Zionist information media which was totally opposed to the deal."

The Saudi defense minister added: "Therefore the Saudi Arabian Kingdom no longer heeds tendentious st[illegible]nts by our enemies. It is enough for us to realize well our interests and those of our nation as well as our mission in relation to this nation."

Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT his belief that "young Saudis in the armed forces, who have proved to everybody their ability to absorb military technology in the shortest possible time, are the ones on which the Saudi Armed Forces, after God Almighty, depend in their technological progress and development in view of the ability of the young to shoulder their responsibilities."

News agencies have said that among the conditions in question was that an American crew would take part in flying and operating the AWACS aircraft, something which the Saudi minister denied completely.

'RESPONSIBLE SOURCE' DENOUNCES AL-QADHDHAFI

LD022326 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Commenting on the speech made this evening by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi in which he attacked Arab relations, damaged Arab ranks and attacked the kingdom's oil policy, a responsible source said this is not surprising from a man accustomed to harming Arab relations, dividing Arab ranks and standing along side the enemies of the Arabs and Muslims.

This was not the first time Al-Qadhdhafi has revealed his grudge, hatred and rancor concerning anything enhancing the prestige of Arabs and Muslims. His latest speech is not far from the trivialities and lies that we have already heard from him, the latest of which was his attack on the holy prophet's teachings; and his casting doubt on the Islamic faith.

Press Reaction

LD030942 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0525 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Press review]

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 3 Mar (SPA) -- Under the headline "Where to, Al-Qadhdhafi?" AL-JAZIRAH says: It is no surprise that Al-Qadhdhafi has renewed his attack against Saudi Arabia and has sworn against, slandered and abused every honorable stand which has placed the kingdom in the position of a modern civilized state on all levels.

It goes on to say: It would have been a surprise if the sick man had remained silent or had ignored the leading role of the kingdom in the Arab and international arenas, especially when we know it is basically impossible for him to priase any stand adopted by the kingdom, any policy it planned or any idea it submitted for solving a problem.

AL-JAZIRAH describes Al-Qadhdhafi as an imbecile and as an Israeli agent. It says that Al-Qadhdhafi, who has not learned a thing from history about the wrath of a people against tyrannic, traitorous and oppressive rulers, continues to slander the kingdom and to horse trade with the Arab cause and unity in the belief that his shameful behavior will protect him from the wrath of the people.

The paper says: It is just our luck as a nation to be plagued by he who serves Israel and who trades in the Arab cause; it is our role to restrain this childish behavior and that of his lackeys and to defend the rights of the nation.

AR-RIYAD, under the headline "The Guardian of the Nation -- a State of Confusion," says: Yesterday, when Al-Qadhdhafi attacked the kingdom with tasteless and naive terms, he was under a state of confusion caused by the bitterness of failure and confusion.

It adds that the colonel, who has convinced himself that he responded to the mediation of friends when he agreed to the restoration of [Saudi-Libyan] relations, has forgotten what everyone else recalls: Relations began to deteriorate earlier, when 'Abd as-Salam Jallud returned disappointed after the kingdom refused to lend him a few billion dollars. The kingdom considers such money to be for the citizens here, for the struggle on the confrontation border and for the Palestinian refugees. How can Libya consider the kingdom to be wasting this money when Al-Qadhdhafi, the head of an oil-rich state, has squandered its wealth on publications in London and Paris, by filling the briefcases of the professional assassins, by exploding bombs and by purchasing information from abroad. [passage indistinct]

HABIB CHATTI GIVES BRIEFING TO KING KHALID

LD012346 Riyadh SPA in English 1900 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Mar (SPA) -- Habib Chatti, secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), said he had briefed H.M. King Khalid on the steps achieved so far by the organisation in implementing the resolutions adopted by the third Islamic summit of At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia. He added during his conference today with H.M. King Khalid, who is also the summit's chairman, on the efforts achieved by the nine-member Islamic peace committee entrusted to put an end to the 18-month old war between Iraq and Iran. [sentence as received]

The committee is due to meet on Friday at the OIC headquarters in Jidda to discuss prospects of ending the war.

UAE PETROLEUM MINISTER ENDS VISIT TO RIYADH

LD021514 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1445 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 2 Mar (SPA) -- UAE Minister of Petroleum and National Resources Dr Mani' al-Utaybah left Riyadh for home today at the end of a brief visit during which he discussed with Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani a number of issues connected with oil. They also consulted on the current oil situation. He was seen off at the airport by Shaykh Yamani and a number of senior officials.

PRINCE SA'UD SEES EUROPEAN ROLE IN MIDEAST

LD011604 Kuwait KUNA in English 1206 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Mar (KUNA) -- Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal was quoted Monday as saying "there is no justification for Europeans to freeze their initiative with regard to the Middle East crisis."

In a special statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA', Prince Sa'ud attributed the announcement made by the Belgian foreign minister on the agreement reached by the European community over freezing its initiative to the Europeans' wish "to wait until the completion of the Israeli withdrawal (from Sinai) and the improvement of the atmosphere in the region."

"Whether before or after its withdrawal from Sinai, Israel will always reject any European or international demand for a response (by this country) to right and justice," he said. "As such, Israel's refusal to respond to the legal rights of the Palestinians cannot be linked to the accomplishment of its withdrawal from Sinai April 25," he indicated.

Prince Sa'ud reiterated the affirmation that "there is a role Europeans could assume. But for this role to be effective and in coherence with the interests of Europe in the Middle East it must take into consideration the solving of the Palestinian question."

DEFENSE MINISTER MEETS KUWAITI CHIEF OF STAFF

GF272010 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received in his office today Kuwaiti Chief of Staff Maj Gen 'Abdallah Farraj al-Ghanim. Saudi Chief of Staff Lt Gen Muhammad Salih al-Hammad attended the meeting. Friendly talks were held on bilateral relations.

Chief of Staff Lt Gen Muhammad Salih al-Hammad met with Kuwaiti Chief of Staff Maj Gen 'Abdallah Farraj al-Ghanim this evening. They reviewed a number of issues of interest to the two fraternal countries.

The Kuwaiti chief of staff arrived in Riyadh today on a 3-day visit. He was received by Chief of Staff Lt Gen Muhammad Salih al-Hammad and a number of senior armed forces officers.

FINANCE MINISTER COMMENTS ON GCC COMMON MARKET

GF270514 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 26 Feb 82 p 10

[Dispatch by Riyadh Miqdadi, Dubayy -- date not given]

[Text] Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, Saudi minister of finance and national economy, has said that the GCC states will become a unified economic group like the EEC through the establishment of a Gulf common market within a year from now. He noted that the establishment of such a market will unify the interests of member countries and put an end to their competition.

The Saudi minister added that the establishment of a Gulf common market is considered to be the "essence of the joint economic agreement" that was recently ratified by GCC leaders. Moreover, the minister said: "All GCC countries are working seriously to implement this agreement as soon as possible."

In an exclusive statement to AL-KHALIJ, the Saudi minister pointed out that the GCC finance ministers will meet within the next few months to discuss details regarding the implementation of this agreement. He said that a GCC customs directors meeting will precede that ministerial meeting in order to draw up the final draft of the provisions that will levy uniform customs fees on foreign imports and eliminate customs barriers among GCC members. The final draft will be presented to the ministerial council for ratification.

The minister said that a series of GCC experts meetings have been held to implement this economic agreement. He noted that a number of executive committees have actually begun to add the final touches to the agreement. He added: "I think it will take less than a year to implement the economic agreement."

On the unification of currencies among GCC countries, Aba al-Khayl said: "There is no plan to unify currencies at the moment. This is a natural result of implementing the economic agreement and not a means of implementing it."

He added: "The difference in currencies has not been an obstacle to commerce among GCC countries or with the outside world, so why should they be unified at this time?"

The Saudi minister said the EEC was established in the 1950's. Nevertheless, the EEC countries do not have a unified currency.

In conclusion, Aba al-Khayl, who participated in the conference on "The Banking Life of the Gulf Countries in the 1980's" that concluded in Dubayy last Wednesday, noted that the economic agreement will unify a number of laws and legislation and will promote investment and useful joint enterprises that will participate in developing the countries of the region as a whole.

GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS VISIT, LEAVES JIDDA

LD011032 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0935 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Jidda, 1 Mar (SPA) -- Greek Foreign Minister Ioanis Kharalambopoulos left Jidda this morning following a 4-day visit to the kingdom. During his visit, the Greek foreign minister held talks with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, on consolidating bilateral relations between the two countries and on questions of mutual interest.

UAE

PRESIDENT RECEIVES IRAN'S 'AZIZI 2 MAR

GF021932 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received Ahmad 'Azizi, Iranian Foreign Ministry under secretary [title as heard], at the Al-Ma'thar Palace this evening. The meeting was attended by Surur ibn Muhammad, the chief of the president's office; [name indistinct], the president's representative; 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and Ja'far Kashani, Iranian charge d'affaires in the UAE.

Ahmad 'Azizi arrived earlier today on a 3-day visit to the UAE.

PDRY'S 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD ARRIVES FOR VISIT

GF021811 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1710 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Mar (WAM) -- 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the PDRY chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, arrived in the UAE from Algeria tonight on a 2-day visit.

He was received at the airport by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and by senior officials and diplomats in the UAE.

'Ali Nasir Muhammad expressed his happiness at visiting the UAE and meeting with President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. He said this visit will give him the opportunity to exchange views and opinions on fraternal bilateral relations.

In a statement on arrival the PDRY chairman said the talks will focus on developments in the Arab situation, particularly security issues, the stability of the region and the situation in the Middle East.

He added that his talks will deal with the necessary steps that must be taken to consolidate Arab solidarity in order to confront imperialism and Zionism and to concentrate all Arab powers and efforts to confront the common enemy that is threatening the destiny and future of our Arab nation.

'Ali Nasir Muhammad said he is confident his visit to the UAE will contribute to solidifying joint efforts for the sake of upholding the Arab nation's issues.

Moreover, he said it is necessary, under the current circumstances, for Arab countries to take effective and tangible measures to confront dangers facing them resulting from the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance. This requires us to distinguish maturely and soberly between enemies and friends of our Arab nation. In light of that, our political trends and national and pan-Arab alternatives will be decided regarding our international relations, he said.

The PDRY chairman concluded his statement by saying: "I would like to express my satisfaction with the development of fraternal relationships between our peoples, which is for their welfare and benefit and for the welfare and happiness of the peoples of the entire Arab nation."

He added: "As we express our appreciation for the auspicious contacts and meetings I have had with our Brother Shaykh Zayid, we trust that our talks during this visit will be fruitful."

PAPER REITERATES GCC REJECTION OF FOREIGN BASES

GF030805 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0725 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Dubayy, 3 Mar (WAM) -- The newspaper AL-BAYAN has stressed the GCC's rejection of any foreign bases in the GCC countries under any pretenses, including the pretexts which the U.S. State and Defense Departments used to persuade the Arab countries to give priority to the Soviet threat.

In its editorial today, the newspaper points out that the GCC leaders' stand is very clear on this issue. This stand is epitomized by the view that "the impending threat which is being posed to the Arab homeland -- of which the Gulf is a part -- is the Zionist expansionist threat."

The newspaper believes that, as a result of this, "the GCC has received the attention and the support of world powers. This attention is manifested in the statement which Douglas Hurd, British minister of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, has made in which he expressed his country's support for the GCC, which makes it possible for the countries of the region to ensure their intrinsic defense."

In conclusion, the newspaper agrees with the Bahraini heir apparent that the Gulf countries are completely prepared to defend any Gulf country if it is being subjected to any threat. The paper says this is the true translation of the principles on which the GCC was established and which stipulated a joint strategy embracing all avenues of life to face the world's conflicting ideologies and to safeguard the Gulf's security.

AL-BAYAN URGES ARABS TO REDUCE OIL PRODUCTION

GF260943 Abu Dhabi WAM in ARabic 0730 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] Dubayy, 26 Feb (WAM) -- AL-BAYAN has called for speedy efforts to convene an emergency OPEC conference in which Arab countries, which comprise the majority of OPEC's members, will assume responsibility for salvaging the present situation in the oil market by reducing and regulating production before oil loses its role as a trade commodity and a source of political power.

In an editorial on the present critical situation regarding Arab oil, AL-BAYAN says: "For the Arab nation, oil is a strategic trade commodity. In addition to providing revenue to build the national economic infrastructure, oil is an effective weapon that can be used to serve our national causes in the same way the United States uses wheat, the Soviet Union uses gas and Japan and the FRG use technology."

AL-BAYAN adds: "The absence of coordination and planning has allowed oil to flow through OPEC's channels without any restraints or consideration and at a rate that is greater than the needs of the world oil market. Thus, a money surplus as well as an oil glut has resulted. This provided the industrial consuming countries with a good opportunity, and they drew up long-term plans to build up strategic oil reserves and develop energy alternatives with the aim of wresting the initiative from the exporters and eliminating the strategic value of Arab oil."

AL-BAYAN says that this serious situation, which has caused OPEC's production to drop from 31 million barrels of oil a day in 1979 to 20.5 million barrels a day since October 1981, eliminates the effectiveness of this strategic commodity as a political force and prevents it from being used as an effective weapon in the defense of rights and interests.

MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI

GF011014 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0958 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Mar (WAKH) -- Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed arrived in Abu Dhabi from Manama at noon today on a 3-day state visit to the UAE. The visit is part of his tour of a number of countries in the region.

The Malaysian official was received at the airport by Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, UAE deputy prime minister; Hamid ibn Nasir al-'Uways, minister of electricity and water; and senior civilian and military officials.

The Malaysian prime minister began his tour with a visit to Bahrain, where he held talks with Bahraini officials on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

Meets Deputy Premier

GF011402 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] UAE Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad met with Dr Mahathir ibn Mohamed at the Abu Dhabi Hilton today. The deputy prime minister welcomed the Malaysian prime minister's visit. The Malaysian prime minister expressed satisfaction with his first visit to the UAE. He stressed that his country is anxious to develop cooperation between the two countries.

The Malaysian prime minister praised UAE policies in all fields. He also noted the great development and progress in the country.

The meeting was attended by Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; Humud Nasir al-'Uways, minister of electricity and water and head of the honorary delegation accompanying the prime minister; and Mohamad Ghazali bin Shafie, Malaysian foreign minister.

Received by President

GF020925 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0813 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Al-'Ayn, 2 Mar (WAKH) -- UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed here this morning.

BORDER GUARDS ARREST 'INFILTRATORS' 25 FEB

GF261223 Doha QNA in Arabic 1154 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Feb (QNA) -- Border guards in the UAE's Ra's al-Khaymah Amirate pursued and seized a launch last night that had carried a group of infiltrators into the country. All seven infiltrators are nationals of a neighboring country.

This is reported in today's issue of AL-ITTIHAD, which does not mention the name of the neighboring country. AL-ITTIHAD says: "The launch's captain and the infiltrators are currently being interrogated." The infiltrators had landed on the Al-Hamriyah coast in Ra's al-Khaymah but were arrested by police.

Some 250 persons who have violated UAE labor laws were arrested yesterday. They are of various nationalities and have been staying in the UAE illegally. The arrests were made as part of the daily search campaign that is being organized by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Interior.

A Dubai court has also imposed fines on 25 others and ordered their deportation for staying in the amirate illegally.

PDRY

CHAIRMAN 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD INTERVIEWED

GF021356 Ash-Shariqah Al-Khalij in Arabic 1 Mar 82 pp 13, 14

[Interview granted to AL-KHALIJ by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, PDRY chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, in Aden -- date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The Arab citizen is following with anticipating the steps of the two Yemens to restore national unity. What has so far been achieved in this regard and when will a unified state be created? Are there any difficulties in achieving this unity?

PDRY chairman: The issue of uniting the Yemeni homeland will continue to be the foremost issue that nationalists and progressive and honorable persons in the Yemeni area are struggling for. In order to succeed, we will continue our struggle and will be among the people's pioneers, who are anxious to see the dawn of unity. We realize very well that the achievement of unity clashes with the difficulties and obstacles thrown in our path by the imperialist and reactionary powers and their agents in the Yemeni arena. During the past years, these powers have sown sedition and forced wars on the Yemeni people. They are now trying to infiltrate in any way possible in order to create tension in relations between the two parts and two leaderships with the goal of hindering unionist efforts. Anyway, these forces will not be able to stop our people's march and unity. We have confidence that this unity will triumph. In this regard, it can be said that many things have so far been achieved. On the level of the joint unionist committees, it should be noted that these committees have made significant progress in reaching agreement on the policy of the unified state in politics, economic and social affairs and in education, science, health and foreign policy. Some of the committees have almost fulfilled their duties. For example, the constitution committee has finished preparing the unified state's constitution. This constitution will be submitted to the people's masses for discussion and amendments which will then be followed with a referendum so the masses will be able to express their opinions on unity and the future of their country. On another level, I held summit meetings with Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih in San'a, Ta'izz, (Ar-Rahidah) and Aden. These meetings helped to create a suitable atmosphere for unionist work. The issues of interest to the Yemeni people which are linked to coordination with Arab and international issues were discussed during these meetings.

We are confident that the question of unity is a just one and that the way to achieve it is a correct one too. With regard to this issue I would like to say that the recent Aden agreement and similarly, the other agreements and statements made in Cairo, Tripoli, Algiers, Kuwait, San'a and Ta'izz are all considered to be the minimum in the achievement of this aspiration. Our supreme aspiration is the complete elimination of fragmentation and separation and the establishment of a fully united democratic Yemen. The dawn of unity is definitely coming. There is no doubt about that.

Question: The Gulf and Arabian Peninsula region is considered to be an internationally strategic. How do you view its stability? What is your reply to what is being said about the presence of Soviet military bases in your country? What are the results of your tour of the Gulf?

PDRY chairman: There is no doubt the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula region is strategically important and vital to the world economy and world peace in general. However, stability in the region is threatened by imperialist and reactionary circles which try to conceal facts from the region's peoples by creating false claims about a "Soviet threat" and "Soviet designs on the region's oil." These lies cannot conceal facts. It is U.S. imperialism that is causing instability. Its fleet in the Indian Ocean and its bases in Oman and Somalia in addition to the facilities provided by some countries in the region and the U.S.-operated AWACS planes above Saudi Arabian territories as well as the recent U.S. maneuvers in Oman and Somalia are all evidence of which superpower is threatening the stability of our region. It is the imperialist superpower, the United States.

If world imperialism wants to protect its interests as it claims, it cannot do so through military bases and threats to resort to force. Perhaps the constructive proposals that we have offered are obvious. Last year, the Soviet Union offered suggestions on these proposals. We consider the Soviet suggestions a realistic way to securing stability in our region and a contribution to reinforcing international peace and detente. These proposals guarantee security for the region's peoples and free them from worrying about the dangers of a foreign and hostile military presence.

Concerning what is being said about the presence of Soviet bases in the PDRY, this is not new to us. It is a hackneyed phrase. There are absolutely no Soviet bases in our country. There are only U.S. imperialist bases and these are present in some of the region's states. I do not wish to discuss in detail the numbers and locations of these U.S. bases in the region.

We, in the PDRY, have been and still are anxious over the region's stability.

We have called for a summit conference of the region's states in order to purge it of all foreign military presence. My visit to the Gulf states was part of our country's efforts to develop bilateral relations and to bolster the efforts that are aimed at maintaining peace, stability and constructive cooperation in our region.

Question: The Iraqi-Iranian war has been going on for some time. How do you view resolving this dispute?

PDRY chairman: We believe war is not the way to resolve disputes among the region's countries. We have said this from the beginning of the Iraq-Iranian war. A year and a half have passed since the start of the war, and the issues over which the war broke out are still not resolved. This war has had very serious consequences. Tens of thousands of people on both sides have fallen, the national economy of both countries has been subjected to losses exceeding 200 billion [currency not specified] and at least 15 years will be needed to rebuild what has been destroyed by the war. We in the PDRY still adhere to our position that the war must end and that the two sides must resort to negotiations in order to resolve their differences peacefully and in a way that guarantees the interests and sovereignty of the two countries and enables them to use all their capabilities for the struggle against the Zionist and imperialist powers lurking in the region.

Question: It seems that PDRY-Saudi relations are lukewarm. How do you view the means of developing these relations? Do you intend to visit Saudi Arabia? What is being offered by Saudi Arabia to your country?

PDRY chairman: We would like to have relations with Saudi Arabia develop along the same lines as the normalization of relations was achieved. We believe the presence of and mutual respect for social progress will serve the efforts being exerted to create stability in our area and to help develop relations between the two peoples and achieve joint interests. As for visiting Saudi Arabia, I visited the kingdom earlier. There are many outstanding projects which Saudi Arabia promised to finance in 1976. Projects concerning electricity and residential apartments have not so far been undertaken by Saudi Arabia. It did, however, aid flood victims last year.

Question: Some accuse your country of being affiliated with the socialist bloc and of not paying attention to being a part of the Arab world. How do you reply to this?

PDRY chairman: Those who say this want our country to jump on the bandwagon of U.S. imperialism as they have done. I would like to say that they can dream of anything but not of destroying the revolutionary policy of our country. In the current struggle between socialism and imperialism, we side with socialism, particularly with the Soviet Union, which continuously supports our Arab peoples, including the Yemeni people. As for those who have chosen the imperialist camp, they know the crimes committed by imperialism against our peoples, particularly the Palestinian people. As for what has been said about our relations with the Arab world, we do not want anyone passing judgment on this. We have been accused of having nothing to do with Arabism and Islam. Those who have said such things themselves have nothing to do with the values of Arabism and Islam, having adopted the decayed values of imperialism, which are opposed to our Arab peoples. We revolutionary Yemenis have known stands on the just issues of our Arab nation, namely, liberation, national progress and unity. As I said before, we do not want anyone passing judgment on us.

Question: There are rumors that there will be a Cabinet reshuffle. Is this true?

PDRY chairman: We do not have this in mind. No reshuffle will take place because there are no reasons for one. You can quote me and deny such news and information.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES SOVIET MINISTER

EA011542 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Brother Brig 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, member of the Political Bureau, first deputy prime minister and minister of local government, received in his office this morning Comrade Yevgeniy Kozlovskiy, the Soviet minister of geology.

During the meeting, the two discussed cooperation relations and the exchange of experiences between the two friendly countries and methods of strengthening and developing them.

The meeting was attended by Brother 'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal, candidate member of the Central Committee and minister of industry, and Comrade Feliz Fedotov, Soviet ambassador in Aden, and the economic counsellor in the USSR Embassy.

Minister Leaves Aden

EA02 . '2 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Summary] Soviet Geology Minister Yevgeniy Kozlovskiy left Aden this evening after a visit to the PDRY of several days. During the visit talks were held on cooperation between the two countries in exploring for oil and minerals.

AUTONOMY TEAMS DISCUSS SETTLEMENTS, SECURITY

NC022020 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1909 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) -- The Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. tripartite technical committee on autonomy talks held a session this evening. It discussed two principal issues -- Israeli settlements and the territory problem.

MENA has learned that head of the Egyptian side in the talks Ambassador Tahir Shash presented Egypt's firm view regarding the Israeli settlements -- a viewpoint Egypt had voiced in meetings held in Herzliyya last May and on several other occasions.

Tahir Shash pointed out that Egypt's stand is based on the fact that Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are illegal according to international law as well as an obstacle to peace, a departure from the Camp David agreement, a serious threat to the security of the Palestinian people, an incitement to hatred, and a provocation conducive to undesirable consequences.

Tahir Shash emphasized that the Camp David agreements contained no mention whatsoever of settlements as a means of security and that security, as cited in Camp David, means security for all parties concerned and not for Israel alone.

The tripartite committee will resume meeting tomorrow, Wednesday, when the Egyptian side will present its view on security arrangements in reply to the view presented by the Israeli team during this morning's session. The Egyptian side immediately voiced opposition to the basis on which the Israeli view on this important subject is founded.

WITHDRAWAL COMMITTEE MEETING RESCHEDULED

NC021932 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1903 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) -- It has been learned that the higher committee on withdrawal from Sinai will hold its next meeting in Tel Aviv on 15 March instead of next Tuesday, as previously scheduled.

The Egyptian delegation in the committee meeting will be headed by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the Israeli side by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon.

MENA has learned that Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali may also attend this meeting as a member of the Egyptian delegation. The higher committee will discuss the final executive measures for Israeli withdrawal from Sinai and some issues pertaining to normalization.

AL-AHRAM: MUBARAK TO ADDRESS ASSEMBLY 26 APRIL

NC022222 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) -- AL-AHRAM reports in Wednesday's issue that President Husni Mubarak will personally raise the Egyptian flag in the city of Rafah, one of the larger liberated cities in the remaining part of Sinai, on 25 April at a ceremony to be held on the occasion of Egypt's recovery of the remaining part of Sinai.

The president will deliver an historic speech on the occasion during a meeting which the People's Assembly will hold on 26 April -- the day after Egypt has regained all its territory.

The newspaper has learned that the most important points which the president will emphasize in his speech are:

1. Egypt's firm commitment to peace and the inevitability of giving momentum to efforts for achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East.
2. Guaranteeing the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to determine their own future.
3. Egypt's continuation of the process of normalizing relations with Israel in accordance with the rules of good neighborliness.

This important speech will also include issues related to priorities of domestic work in the economic, political and social fields.

Some foreign journalists had asked the president as he emerged from his Al-'Urubah Palace office at noon today whether he would visit Jerusalem during his forthcoming visit to Israel. He replied by saying that the answer to this question will be determined later. The president said all the problems connected with his visit to Israel will be resolved later and that he is in the process of eliminating all the difficulties related to this visit.

AL-JUMHURIYAH ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, PEACE

NC022328 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2308 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) -- AL-JUMHURIYAH emphasizes the failure of the Israeli extremists' attempts to obstruct the process of Israeli withdrawal from Sinai because world public opinion, of which the Israeli public opinion is a part, will not accept any jeopardizing of the peace process.

In an editorial published in Wednesday's issue, the paper explains that peace is no longer a policy that is liable to change, rather it has become a firm ideology that is consolidated every time its effects expand to include other peoples in an area that has remained an arena for battles and wars for over 30 years now. The paper also explains that what (?we) seek is a just peace that will restore rights and territory to their owners and security for everyone.

SAUDI DAILY INTERVIEWS EGYPTIAN FRONT LEADER

PM251345 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 17 Feb 82 p 17

[Khalil at-Taqiyy interview with Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili, secretary general of the Egyptian National Front and former Egyptian chief of staff, in Damascus -- date not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] A few months after President as-Sadat's assassination, how does the front feel about President Mubarak's policies?

[Answer] Our disagreement with President as-Sadat was not over personal matters. We opposed his foreign, economic and domestic policies.

President Mubarak's declaration that he will pursue As-Sadat's line means that the same policy will continue and, this being the case, we will oppose Husni Mubarak just as we opposed As-Sadat. We do hope, however, that Mubarak will retract his words and try to rectify the course and change the policy of his predecessor.

The opportunity is there for him to retrace his steps because he is not responsible for all past mistakes. When we say that he is not responsible for all the mistakes, we mean that he may be responsible for some mistakes and not others. We do not know the details because we do not know what happened backstage. We are assuming that he is not responsible for all the mistakes and therefore say that he has a chance to change. If he makes the necessary changes we will welcome that move. We will be the first to support such steps as Egypt's return to the Arab fold, abolition of the present repressive system in Egypt, and restoration of normal economic conditions to give Egypt an independent economy, not a subservient economy, as is the case now.

[Question] Syria and other Arab states have drawn the attention of the West European states to the seriousness with which they view Europe's participation in the Sinai multinational force, maintaining that this participation would mean official recognition of and participation in the joint plot to liquidate the central Arab cause of Palestine. How do you view Europe's participation in this force, which will replace the Zionist occupation forces?

[Answer] First of all we are grateful to fraternal and steadfast Arab Syria and its brave leadership, and to the other Arab states, for this attitude, which we regard as positive. However, our assessment goes even further. We completely reject the Camp David accords, as indeed does Syria, and therefore we are against the presence of a multinational force or a UN force, whether it includes British, French and other units or not.

[Question] How do you see the situation within the Egyptian Armed Forces?

[Answer] The commanders and officers of the armed forces are more aware than anyone else of the regime's deception and tricks against the Arab people of Egypt and of the facilities and bases provided by the regime for the United States. They know that As-Sadat's regime was deceiving the Egyptian people when it claimed that the United States was giving Egypt advanced weapons, and they know that Mubarak's regime is deceiving them by repeating these claims. They know that these weapons are unimportant samples. What is important is the quantity of the weapons. The officers know the truth, the whole truth. This is why they are the people most eager to get rid of a regime that has deceived them for such a long time.

Naturally, the armed forces are a part of the people and their movement should be linked to the people's movement. We are confident that the patriotism of the Egyptian officers and soldiers will not permit them to be used by the regime to put down popular movements.

[Question] What is the latest news regarding the Egyptian National Front's struggle?

[Answer] The National Front's leadership is in continuous contact with all nationalist elements and organizations at home and abroad. We help with the organization and development of these groups. We are an extension of the nationalist forces and organizations which are growing and spreading at home. There are close ties between us. There is full organizational coordination between forces inside the country and out.

[Question] As a national front, how would you like to see the popular and party opposition to the regime?

[Answer] Opposition in Egypt is growing daily, but it needs more organization. It is worth noting here that even those who were considered supporters of the regime and on whom the regime depended -- such as the Labor Party, which As-Sadat himself created as an opposition party with the proviso that it support the Camp David agreements and the regime's general line -- managed, before As-Sadat's assassination, to gradually draw away from this imposed tutelage and expressed views contrary to the regime's views. It has even tried to criticize the treaty signed by As-Sadat and Zionist terrorist Menahem Begin. There is also the national coalition of opposition figures. That coalition submitted three protests to As-Sadat and has expressed reservations about the policies of this successor, Mubarak. This coalition, however, is not an organization or a party, but it does show that opposition in Egypt is growing and trying to organize itself. This is what is happening openly, but there is another line of opposition being organized secretly: strong organizations are being set up and allowed to flourish away from the scrutinizing eyes and tutelage of the authorities. Although these organizations managed to kill As-Sadat, they are now at the stage of development. They have passed the stage of birth or formation and are now spreading daily.

[Question] How do you assess President Mubarak's recent visit to Europe and the United States?

[Answer] We see Mubarak's regime as a continuation of As-Sadat's regime. This conclusion is based on the declarations of the regime and on a political and strategic analysis of what Mubarak says and insists upon. So it is a process of continuation. Naturally, Mubrak is openly reassuring the West and the United States that he is following the same policy, becaue he wants to secure for his regime the same degree of U.S. and Western support that there was for As-Sadat. I believe that the Egyptian regime now needs a great deal of support from these states, because a new element has emerged. That is the element of dissatisfaction and violence. The regime needs economic support to prevent its collapse and more violence and rejection. The purpose of Mubarak's recent visit was to assure the United States and Western Europe that he is following the same policy as As-Sadat and therefore needs more aid to protect the regime.

[Question] How do you see Egyptian sovereignty in Sinai after the Zionist Army's withdrawal on 25 April?

[Answer] When As-Sadat was at the peak of his power, he used to say that the October liberation war was the last war. This, of course, is absolutely untrue. As-Sadat was not in power forever and Mubarak will not be there forever. Arab Egypt will never accept that the October War was the last war. On the contrary, Egypt has certain objectives and will continue to struggle for these objectives. There will be wars as long as the Camp David agreements exist because the Camp David agreements restrict Egyptian sovereignty over Egyptian territory.

[Question] What is your comment on the flagrantly hostile U.S. attitude which prevented the imposition of sanctions against the Zionist entity following the latter's act of piracy in the occupied Golan Heights?

[Answer] The U.S. stance on the Golan issue, and the Arab cause as a whole, does not surprise us at all. Anyone who thinks that the United States will support the Arabs and the Arab cause is mistaken and unrealistic. The United States has made this quite clear by its actions over the past 30 years. I wish that the friends of the United States and the West in this region would realize this fact.

Our case is perfectly clear. If we want to know who our friends are and who our enemies are, all we have to do is look at the UN resolutions. The United Nations has adopted over 150 resolutions on the Arab cause. If we examine who voted for or against these resolutions and who abstained we will know who our enemies and friends are.

KUWAITI DAILY INTERVIEWS LABOR PARTY CHIEF

GF251645 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 23 Feb 82 p 18

[Interview granted to AR-RA'Y Al-AMM by Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Egyptian Socialist Labor Party, in Cairo -- no date given]

[Excerpt] [Question] What is your view on what is being said about the Camp David process currently suffering from a dilemma in view of Israel's decision to annex the Golan, U.S. provocations of Libya, and the concentration of Israeli troops in southern Lebanon in addition to the series of explosions and assassinations in the Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian arenas? What is your opinion of all these phenomena?

[Answer] From the beginning, I have to distinguish between Israel's behavior and what we expect of Egypt. The fact that Egypt wants to reach solutions on its occupied territory does not mean that it approves of, participated in or blesses any kind of Israeli squabbling. I cannot imagine any relationship between Israel's contentious behavior and the Egyptian stand. Israel is contentious regardless of the stand by Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Algeria and the entire world. This is clear in what we heard after the Security Council's condemnation and the nullification of the annexation of the Golan and its call for Israel to reconsider it. What did Begin say on this? What was his comment? Therefore, linking these practices with Egypt's stand is unjust and unacceptable. Israel's practices are known. Israel wants to impose de facto situations through measures, relying on Arab division and U.S. support. As a state or a people, Israel naturally imagines it has the right and authority to impose certain situations and that this idea will preserve its sovereignty, existence and security. However, I say that there is no security, existence, future or peace for Israel unless it actually recognizes the Palestinians' rights and peace for them. Any attempt by Israel to find another way -- however long it takes -- will be futile and will not lead to its goals.

[Question] Egypt's return to Arab ranks is the hope of all Arabs from the Ocean to the Gulf. The obstacle to this is Camp David and the normalization [of relations]. How do you view this issue?

[Answer] As I said before, we have many reservations. The majority of our party's command was in opposition from the beginning. We openly opposed continued normalization and denounced all Israeli practices. Nevertheless, if the withdrawal from Sinai is completed, we may consider it a valuable achievement. This achievement will put Egypt in a better position to make its moves, even to resolve the Palestinian issue. We will not accuse Egypt, the Egyptian negotiator, the Egyptian Government or the Egyptian command of trying to compromise on something else. I can say that a solution and a perspective have been reached on what concerns Egypt. What remains is the Palestinian issue that must be resolved. In my view, it is not necessary to abolish Camp David to bring Egypt back to Arab ranks. Rather, we can look to the future for various initiatives in which all parties concerned in the solution of the issue will participate, foremost of whom are the Palestinians themselves, the other Arab countries including the countries surrounding Israel such as Syria, Lebanon and Jordan, supported by other Arab countries and blessed by the peace-loving countries of the world. I believe it is better to look forward to a comprehensive development. The Camp David accords are the obstruction and obstacle in the way of any Arab-Egyptian rapproachement. It is not acceptable, for example, to say: Let us abolish the Camp David agreement. This means we cannot say: Let us close down the Israeli Embassy here and let Israel come back to Sinai, and so on and so forth. We have to look to the future. A certain situation developed in the last stage. This situation had good factors: the withdrawal from Sinai. It also had other things which may contradict the Arab cause as a whole. In my view, Egypt's recognition of Israel is not the gravest thing in the Camp David accords and their aftermath, because the whole world has recognized Israel. However, the gravest consequence of Camp David -- which moved and dismayed us, after our conditional approval -- is this stand which has put Egypt on the side and the Arab countries on the other. I will not say who has isolated the other and who can live without the other. I do say that time has proved that when Egypt is among the Arab countries, this is good for all Arabs, and particularly Egypt.

Egypt's absence from the Arab arena is detrimental to all the Arab countries. Egypt is probably more affected than the others because it plays its full role when it is part of the Arab countries. Egypt has a distinguishing position through its size, history, heritage and the relations with all the other Arab countries. These facts were known before, but we became fully conscious of their consequences only later.

In view of this, I say that the greatest loss and catastrophe that resulted from Camp David was that stand. The greatest gain for Israel was not opening an embassy in Cairo but reaching this situation, which gives it supremacy over all the Arab countries.

[Question] You have talked about Arab division and disintegration. What, in your view, are the ways out of this bitter crisis?

[Answer] In my view we have to have minimum limits of inter-Arab relations. In my opinion, this means avoiding estrangement because certain situations may arise and lead to the worsening of relations between one Arab country and another. This happens all over the world. It is possible to have a lowering of diplomatic representation, a recalling of ambassadors and recourse to charges d'affaires, to exchanges of memos to express views, and to give a third party the chance to mediate. These matters may take place within the Arab group and may have happened under previous circumstances. I recall that at the inception of the dispute between Algeria and Morocco, Egypt intervened and President Mubarak, who was then vice president, traveled and defused the situation and put an end to the crisis.

We have to be patient when it comes to breaking relations between one Arab country and another. At the same time, the Arab peoples have to adopt the strategic point of view continuously. This is because Arab interest lies in being together and in the fact that Arabs have neither existence nor dignity in a void. Rather, their life -- which can have dignity, strength, progress, prosperity and development -- can be ensured through the cooperation of all Arabs, exchange of capabilities and the privileges which can be enjoyed by every Arab country. One Arab country may be strategically located, a second may be economically influential, while a third may enjoy technical cadres who can serve other countries. A country may have vast areas of agricultural land, which may play a big role in meeting various requirements. Through coordination and planning, all this, in my opinion, can be good for the region. Whatever the perceptions about the stand by the opposition of our country against the other, disputes and estrangements can produce gains for one party but will be damaging and destructive for all parties and the entire Arab nation.

As for my vision of what the final image of this cooperation will look like, I say it is in how much good we reap from inter-Arab coordination and attempts to understand stands and exchange services. This will have immense results. The future is for the Arab nation if it believes in its peoples and if its regimes and rulers translate this desire and these feelings -- which I believe are in the heart of every Arab -- into facts. In my opinion, we can learn lessons from all we have undergone and seen. It is not too late for that and we can redress the situation.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES BULGARIAN OFFICIAL

JN021442 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1417 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Mar (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn received here today Stanko Todorov, chairman of the Bulgarian National Assembly. During the meeting Todorov conveyed Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov's greetings to the president and stressed his country's desire to promote firm and close friendly relations between the two countries. The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC]; Na'im Haddad, speaker of the National Assembly; Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, RCC secretary general and acting chief of president's office; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad.

HUNGARY'S MARJAI ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS 1 MAR

JN020932 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Mar (INA) -- Jozsef Marjai, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, left Baghdad for Budapest last night at the end of a 5-day visit to Iraq.

Marjai expressed pleasure at the results of the joint Iraqi-Hungarian committee meetings and said the results were both successful and fruitful and that agreement was reached to expand the volume of trade and economic exchange in the interest of both countries' peoples.

Yesterday evening the two sides signed the minutes of an economic agreement, providing for an assessment of last year's economic, trade and technical cooperation as well as a program of economic cooperation for the current year.

YUGOSLAV JUSTICE DELEGATION ARRIVES 1 MAR

JN011113 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) -- Jernej Vrhunec, Yugoslav assistant secretary for justice and general administration, arrived here today at the head of a delegation. While here, the delegation will hold talks with Justice Ministry officials. It will also acquaint itself with the work of the judiciary organs and experiences will be exchanged between the two ministries. The delegation will participate in the Justice Ministry's celebration of Justice Day next Saturday.

RAMADAN INVITES TURKISH PRIME MINISTER TO VISIT

JN271352 Baghdad INA in English 1330 GMT 27 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Feb (INA) -- Revolution Command Council (RCC) member and First Deputy Premier Taha Yasin Ramadan discussed with the Turkish ambassador to Iraq Sencer Asena the current bilateral relations between the two countries.

Mr Ramadan, who received the ambassador here Saturday, extended an invitation to the Turkish premier Bulent Ulusu to visit Iraq to continue discussions with the aim to further develop the existing relations and cooperation between Iraq and Turkey in all fields. Mr Ramadan and Mr Asena expressed satisfaction over the current relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

EXERCISE TO TEST AIR DEFENSES CARRIED OUT

JN021227 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] INA has learned from a responsible source that at 0705 today a live ammunition exercise was carried out against mock targets to test our air defense systems. The exercise was completely successful.

IRANIAN STANCE ON PALME MISSION ASSAILED

GF021024 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 28 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, Olof Palme has visited both Iran and Iraq as the special envoy of the UN secretary general to discuss the possibility of ending the war Khomeyni and his dregs have imposed on Iraq. After conferring with leaders in Iraq, Olof Palme left Baghdad. In the course of the talks he held in Iraq, Iraqi leaders informed Olof Palme that -- as reiterated on several occasions in the past -- Iraq did not start the war. The war has been imposed on Iraq by Khomeyni. We have no love for war, and we are not warmongers. We do not covet Iranian territory. We favor the speedy termination of the war, which has been continuing between the two fraternal countries.

We state emphatically that Iraq has agreed to a cease-fire not because it is afraid but because its wishes to prevent bloodshed. Nevertheless, this does not mean that Iraq has to relinquish its rights. With regard to this issue, the Iranian authorities must show goodwill and officially declare their recognition of the legal and historic rights of Iraq and the Arab people and (?set themselves limits).

The Iraqi authorities have officially informed Olof Palme that Iraq agrees that he should carry out his humane and peaceful assignment provided that Iraq's legal rights are preserved. Olof Palme has disclosed that he agrees with the proposals and conditions issued by Iraqi authorities and to their humane, Islamic and national statements of moral value. After receiving a warm ovation in Iraq, Olof Palme departed for Tehran to secure the approval of the Tehran rulers for ending the war.

The Iranian Supreme Defense Council met with Mr Olof Palme upon arrival in Tehran. This council met under the chairmanship of Khamene'i. Participating in the meeting were Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Colonel Salimi, [name indistinct], Colonel Seyyed-Shirazi, Dr Velayati, Kamal Gharazi, [name indistinct] and members [words indistinct]. They conferred and exchanged views on Olof Palme's statements. It has become obvious that the bloody clashes and political arguments between the commanders of the armed forces and the mullahs' administration will once again become obstacles impeding the humane and peaceful initiative launched by Olof Palme. In order to benefit from the war themselves, the imperialists and Zionists are trying to undermine the efforts of Olof Palme and those who cherish goodwill.

Nevertheless, they have disclosed that the Iranian conditions and proposals conveyed to Olof Palme are extremely logical and based on the comprehensive views of the ruling party and the leadership. The illogical and unimaginable conditions, however, put forward by the Iranian rulers and their effort to impede the work of Olof Palme and other forces that cherish goodwill will not be in Iran's favor.

In order to prove their goodwill, the Iranian rulers must first put an end to chaotic disorders in the political, military, economic and social fields in Iran.

The Iranian rulers must approach Olof Palme's logical proposals and, taking into consideration the prosperity and happiness of the poor Iranian people, must move to end this war between two neighboring countries that are both Muslim and have historic relations.

Regardless of the negative statements by Khomeyni, Rafsanjani, Dr Velayati and Tavakoli and regardless of the fact that the special envoy of the UN secretary general has departed Iran, it is common knowledge that Olof Palme has said that he is prepared to visit Iran 70 more times in order to end the war. Therefore, the Iranian rulers must not [words indistinct] or put forward unfounded excuses to such a peace-loving delegation. The Iranian rulers must show good will for the sake of humanity and in order to prevent more bloodshed.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 629

JN261708 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Feb (INA) -- The Armed Forces General Command has announced that two out of three Iranian enemy F-5's were downed today while attempting to raid the township of Kirkuk this morning. The Iraqi military communique said that one of the planes was downed in a dogfight, the other downed by ground defenses and the third was forced to flee. The communique added that the Iraqi fighter planes raided enemy positions and military targets in the southern sector of the operations theater all day, scoring direct hits before returning safely to base.

The military communique put the Persian enemy losses during the past 24 hours at 59 killed; 2 planes downed and 1 tank, 4 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 1 stockpile of hardware and 3 observation posts destroyed. The communique explained that the military operations took place in the sectors of Bostan, Abadan, Gilan-e Gharb, Mehran Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Nowsud, Khafajiyah [Susangerd] and Shush. It put the Iraqi losses at 14 martyrs in all sectors and 4 vehicles damaged. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 629 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In defense of the Arab nation's fate, honor, sovereignty, history and glories, our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today, with the following results:

1. Our forward units, using various types of weapons, pounded enemy positions and units in the Bostan sector, killing 43 and destroying 2 vehicles, 1 excavator, 1 stockpile of hardware and 2 observation posts.
2. All day today, our fighter planes attacked enemy positions and military targets in the southern sector of the operations theater, scoring direct hits and inflicting grave losses on its personnel and vehicles. All our planes returned safely to base.
3. At 1121 today, three enemy F-5's infiltrated our territory aiming at residential quarters in the Kirkuk area. Our fighter planes intercepted them, downing one in a dogfight. A second enemy F-5 was downed by our ground defenses and the third was forced to flee.
4. Four were killed and one vehicle and one observation post were destroyed in the Abadan area.
5. Four were killed and one tank was destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
6. Three were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
7. Three were killed in the Mehran area.
8. Two were killed in the Nowsud area.
9. One vehicle was destroyed in the Khafajiyah area.
10. One gun was destroyed in the Shush area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 59 killed; 2 fighter planes downed, and 1 tank, 4 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 1 stockpile of hardware and 3 observation posts destroyed.

11. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: 14 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: four vehicles damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 February 1982

Communique No 630

JN271639 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 27 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Feb (INA) -- Iraqi fighter planes have continued their successful raids on the Iranian enemy's positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base. Iraqi military communique No 630, issued by the Armed Forces General Command this evening, put known enemy losses during the past 24 hours at 18 killed and 1 armored personnel carrier, 8 vehicles and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed. It put our sacrifices at six martyrs in all sectors and one mortar damaged. The following is the text of the communique:

Our valiant armed forces continued their activites in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today. Following are the results:

1. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the Bostan sector, killing seven and destroying one stockpile of hardware.
2. Our valiant air force continued their successful raids on the enemy's positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base.
3. Five were killed in the Mimak area opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
4. Three were killed in the Shush area.
5. One was killed and seven vehicles destroyed in the Abadan area.
6. Two were killed in the Nowsud area.
7. One armored personnel carrier was destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
8. One vehicle carrying troops was destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 18 killed and 1 armored personnel carrier, 8 vehicles and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed.

9. Our sacrifices:
A. In personnel: six martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: one mortar damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 February 1982

Communique No 631

JN281643 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 28 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Feb (INA) -- The Iraqi fighter planes today carried out successful raids against the Iranian enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the operations theater. All of our planes returned safely to base. Iraqi military communique No 631 issued by the Armed Forces General Command noted that the Iraqi raids inflicted grave losses in life and equipment. The communique put the enemy's losses at 77 killed and 11 vehicles, 2 guns, 1 excavator, 5 stockpiles of hardware and 11 observation posts destroyed. Following is the text of communique No 631 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The glorious soldiers of Iraq and the Arab nation continued their activities in the operations sectors last night and today with the following results:

1. Using various types of arms, our forward units pounded enemy concentrations in front of their positions in the Bostan sector, killing 39 and destroying 5 vehicles and 3 observation posts.
2. Today our fighter planes attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the operations theater, inflicting losses in life and equipment before returning safely to base.
3. One of our combat patrols raided enemy positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area, killing five and destroying one stockpile of hardware. Our forces also destroyed one vehicle and one stockpile of hardware in the same area.
4. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and concentrations in the Abadan area, killing 14 and destroying 2 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 1 stockpile of hardware and 7 observation posts.
5. Eight were killed and one observation post destroyed in the Nowsud area.
6. Seven were killed and three vehicles and two stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Shush area.
7. Four were killed in the Dezful area.
8. One gun was destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 77 killed and 11 vehicles, 2 guns, 1 excavator, 5 stockpiles of hardware and 11 observation posts destroyed.

9. Our sacrifices:
A. In personnel: 13 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: one mortar damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 February 1982

Communique No 632

JN011650 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) -- The Iraqi forces in the Bostan sector continued to pound enemy units, killing 29 and destroying various war materiel. Communique No 632 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command this evening said that one of our forward patrols raided enemy personnel in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area, killing seven. The communique put enemy losses in the operations theater during the past 24 hours at 54 killed and 2 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers and other equipment destroyed. Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 632 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Armed with principles, courage and zeal, our armed forces continued their activities in the operations theater last night and today, with the following results:

1. Our forward units in the Bostan sector continued to pound enemy units, killing 29 and destroying 2 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 4 observation posts.
2. A patrol of our forward units raided enemy troop concentrations in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area, killing seven.
3. Six were killed and one vehicle, one stockpile of hardware and one observation post destroyed in the Shush area.
4. Five were killed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
5. Four were killed and one vehicle destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
6. Three were killed and one observation post destroyed in the Nowsud area.
7. Four stockpiles of hardware and one observation post destroyed in the Abadan area.
8. One gun was destroyed in the Ahvaz area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 54 killed and 2 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 2 vehicles, 1 gun, 7 stockpiles of hardware and 7 observation posts destroyed.

9. Our sacrifices:
A. In personnel: 16 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: one tank and one vehicle damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 March 1982

AMMAN DAILY UNDERLINES JORDAN'S MIDEAST ROLE

JN021150 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 2 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Voice of Reason"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's interview with ABC-TV, broadcast on Sunday, was a clear and forthright expression of Jordan's determination to remain both as a bulkwark of confrontation against Israel's unchecked expansionism, and as a constant factor of stability in this troubled region. The forthcoming request for advanced American weaponry is an expression of that determination, as are all Jordan's efforts to arm itself -- regardless of the source -- in order to maintain the balance of power.

Meanwhile, the king spoke again on Sunday, at the graduation of a new class of Royal Jordanian Air Force pilots. To those young men, who had just received their wings and were about to join their comrades in defending their homes, he expressed this country's everlasting determination to prevail in the face of all adversity, and recalled the principles of the great Arab revolt. As in the days of that uprising the Arabs must remain united and true to themselves if they are to retain their independence, dignity and freedom in the face of the oppressor.

The wings conferred on those new pilots are a shining expression of what the king spoke of on American television. When they take to the sky in their fighter jets, those pilots will manifest Jordan's absolute determination not to cede the land and the rights for which the Arabs have fought so hard. They will also, with their high degree of training and skills, represent this country's effort to do its best to maintain a regional balance -- and that despite the over-whelming superiority of armament that has been granted to Israel.

The decision makers in America to whom King Husayn was speaking through his television interview may not always see clearly, but we hope that this once, the voices of the anti-Arab lobby and the cries of Zionism's constant servants will not drown out this voice of reason.

MONTE CARLO RADIO ON AL-YARMUK FORCE DEPARTURE

JN021838 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Yesterday evening King Husayn sent off the first group of Jordanian volunteers. They left Amman to join Iraqi fighters in their war against the Iranians. The JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY which reported this today did not give the number of volunteers.

Well-informed sources in Amman, however, said thatmore than 5,000 have so far joined the Al-Yarmuk force King Husayn formed last January to fight alongside Iraqi forces against Iran.

HUSAYN ADDRESSES AL-YARMUK FORCE CONTINGENT

JN021603 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Amman, 2 Mar (PETRA) -- His Majesty King Husayn, supreme commander of Jordanian Armed Forces, bid farwell to the first group of the Jordanian Arab forces of Al-Yarmuk, which left for Iraq last night to fight with their Iraqi brothers in their just war against the aggressive Iranian regime.

Addressing the Al-Yarmuk vanguards, the king said: Fellow brothers who are now preparing to move toward another dear part of the great Arab homeland, I greet you and convey to each one of you the sentiments of gratitude, appreciation and pride from each member of our united Jordanian family on this particular day, the anniversary of the Arabizing of the Arab legion, the heir of the great Arab revolt.

His majesty said that this country and this dear and united Arab nation to which we belong has always protected the Arab banner and aspirations and has always carried out its responsibilities, giving mottos and slogans their true meaning in defense of Arab rights and immortal Arab values. This, his majesty added, is a new turning point in Jordan's history because this is the first group of Jordanians to have the honor of fighting in another part of our one Arab homeland. The Arabs have been known for their manliness, awareness, sincerity and honesty; for their courage and readiness to make sacrifices and carry out their duties with honor and dignity.

His majesty said: This is a turning point and a new step on the right path because there are brothers whom we all owe a great deal. The battle is imposed on this nation whose enemies are colluding and coordinating to wipe out the Arabs, the achievements of past generations and hopes for the future. His majesty said: Our brothers in Iraq are waging a battle which is, God willing, the beginning of victory not only there but everywhere against frustration, weakness, desperation and errors which have been afflicting us for many years. We have always been with the right against the wrong and we will always remain, God willing, the soldiers of the truth.

Addressing the Al-Yarmuk vanguards, his majesty said: Each one of you represents the great Jordanian family to which we belong and symbolizes our values. You must remember during the coming days and at all times and circumstances that while in the Al-Yarmuk forces you will represent a name which is dear to the heart of each Arab and Muslim. Our Jordanian family symbolizes the Arabs' genuine characteristics. We are in a battle here and in a battle there and right must always triumph. May God bless you and grant you success. God is the leader of our march and he is the supporter of the faithful. His majesty added: In fraternal Iraq you will find an army and a people and you will find that the army is the people and the people are the army. These things are beginning to take place here in Jordan. We will meet there in the dear Arab territory and I wish success and victory. I will be with you and among you as soon as possible, God willing. O brave men raise aloft your motto on your foreheads, may God bless you.

Bidding farewell to the Al-Yarmuk Forces along with his majesty were the prime minister and defense minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the minister of court, the chief chamberlain, the chief of the Army Staff, the Iraqi ambassador in Amman and a number of senior officials.

COMMENTARY VIEWS HABIB VISIT, ISRAELI AGGRESSION

JN021803 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Everything indicates that Israel is harboring evil against Lebanon. Proof of this puts the world face to face with Israel's insistance on launching a full-scale attack against southern Lebanon in order to deal a heavy blow to the Palestinians. After this they will need a long period to regroup their forces and reorganize themselves, thus enabling Israel to make progress in establishing a civil administration in the West Bank and Gaza Strip while reenforcing its agents and those who collaborate with it as representatives of the Palestinian community, which serves Israel's plans in the short and long run.

A look at the cease-fire agreement, which was reached and later extended by Philip Habib, and at the Israeli officials' statements which followed this agreement show that Israel is trying to prepare the world to either accept its imminent aggression or, at least, to limit international reaction to this aggression. Israel has been mentioning infiltration by so-called Palestinian elements of the occupied territories from Lebanon. It has also been referring to the huge flow of arms to the Palestinians in Lebanon. Israel has been stressing that the Palestinian resistence is taking advantage of the cease-fire to rebuild its forces and positions.

Since the new Israeli Ambassador arrived in Washington, he has been reasserting Israeli statements regarding the serious situation in southern Lebanon and the so-called Palestinian infiltration of the occupied territories as well as the arms shipments to the Palestinian resistance. Initial analyses of this indicates that Israel is trying to find justifications to convince the world that it has to launch a preventive war against the Palestinian resistance. Israel did the same thing in 1967 when it occupied the West Bank, the Golan, Gaza Strip and Sinai under the pretext of being forced to defend itself and, accordingly, to launch a preventive war against the Arabs.

What draws attention here is that Israel has not hesitated to take advantage of Philip Habib's visit to back its aggressive logic. Although Habib's visit to the region is aimed at preventing an explosion, Israel cited Habib as praising what it terms as the Israeli Government's stand and its practice of self-restraint. Furthermore, it cited Habib as reconfirming the Israeli statements which the Begin government is trying to use as justification for its aggression.

There is no doubt that the U.S. envoy will deny what was attributed to him by the Israeli media because we believe that a mediator can never use the language of one of the conflicting parties at the expense of truth and reality.

This immoral use of Philip Habib's tour does not surprise us for Israel has previously, and frequently, embarrassed the United States. As Habib was trying to end the Syrian missiles crisis, the Israelis attacked the Iraqi nuclear reactor and carried out a babbaric attack on Beirut aimed at innocent civilians and residential quarters. It will not be surprising if Israel takes advantage of Habib's fourth tour of the region to carry out its imminent wide-scale attack on Lebanon, particularly on southern Lebanon, regardless of the embarrassment it may cause the U.S. administration. Israel may carry out such an attack even if this causes Philip Habib's mission to fail, which will harm the United States. The United States, as it is known, is a superpower shouldering special responsibilities for the issues of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORS TO SWEDEN, MEXICO -- Amman, AR-RA'Y -- The council of ministers has decided to appoint Jordan's Ambassador in Bonn ash-Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf as Jordan's nonresident ambassador to Sweden and to appoint Jordan's Ambassador in Washington 'Abd al-Hadi al-Majali as Jordan's nonresident ambassador to Mexico. [Text] [Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 1 Mar 82 p 3 JN]

TRIPOLI BOMBINGS STRAIN 'SECURITY ATMOSPHERE'

NC022239 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] According to the latest information reaching Beirut tonight, the explosion of a boobytrapped car in As-Sintral Street in Tripoli has strained the security atmosphere in the city.

The explosion of the car, which contained 25 kgs of TNT, wounded 14 persons, 8 from the Syrian [Arab] Deterrent Forces, 1 in serious condition, and 6 Lebanese. Civil defence squads took the injured to Al-Mazlum Hospital in Tripoli.

Another security incident took place today in a Tripoli street when armed members of the popular resistance in Az-Zahriyah accosted an internal security forces patrol in the city following [word indistinct] between an armed man and patrol members. In the clash Gendarme Walid Yusuf was hit by a bullet in the back. He was evacuated to the hospital. Meanwhile, two armed men were wounded.

According to other security information reaching the Voice of Lebanon tonight, several explosions occurred tonight as follows:

At 1945 a car belonging to Shahadah Qasim exploded in banks [Al-Masarif] street, causing material damage to cars parked there; at 2000 an explosion occurred near the (?Yarfiq) Cafeteria in Al-Musaytibah under a Fiat carrying the number 335939, damaging nearby buildings; in Bhamdun, a bundle of dynamite was hurled from a passing car at a store selling alcoholic beverages near the Al-Karnak Hotel.

'ARAFAT MEETS JUNBLATT, OTHER LEBANESE LEADERS

JN021545 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met with former Lebanese Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam at noon today. The meeting was also attended by Fatah Central Committee members Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Abu Iyad [Salam Khalaf] and Abu al-Walid [Brig Gen Sa'd Sayil] and (Bajamil Qibbih). The talks covered the latest developments and several Arab and Lebanese issues.

'Arafat yesterday evening received Walid Junblatt, head of the Central Political Council of the Lebanese National Movement. Discussions focused on all aspects of the current situation particularly in southern Lebanon in light of the latest Israel-military concentrations and threats.

ISRAELI NAVAL AND AIR ACTIVITY DRAW PLO FIRE

NC030729 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Intensive artillery fire was heard during the night, reportedly against Israeli helicopters and boats reconnoitering the southern coastal area up to western Beirut.

A state of anxiety prevails in southern Lebanon because of Israeli and Palestinian concentrations in the border area. A UNIFIL spokesman in the south has admitted that the largest military concentrations were seen in Al-Bayyadah area.

MAJOR HADDAD COMMENTS ON CURRENT EVENTS

NC020830 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Major Haddad, commander of free Lebanon, has commented on some events and topics as follows:

1. On Ma'ruf Sa'd's death anniversary, I would like to remind his son Mustafa and all Sidonites that Ma'ruf Sa'd was assassinated by the Syrian Intelligence Service to exacerbate the situation in Lebanon at that time. Moreover, the deceased suffered at the hands of the swindlers [Palestinians] when they arrested him, took him to the 'Ayn al-Hulwah Camp, put him in a cage to exhibit him, called him the white bear and tried to impale him. We recall these facts just for the sake of memory; perhaps memory will be a lesson for those who want to learn.

2. In Kuwait, Shafiq al-Wazzan asked Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah that Kuwait refinance the Syrian forces in Lebanon. As-Sabah rejected this because the Syrians are trying to exterminate the Sunnites in Syria. Al-Wazzan then convinced As-Sabah that if the Syrians withdraw from Lebanon, the Phalangists will overpower the Sunnites in Lebanon, and, hence, the situation of the Sunnites in Syria and Lebanon will be weakened. As-Sabah was convinced of this idea which he referred to the Kuwaiti People's Assembly. The assembly's answer was that Al-Wazzan is wrong because as soon as it liquidates the Sunnites in Syria the Kharijite 'Alawite regime will act to liquidate them in Lebanon, and hence the danger the Christians pose to the Sunnites is much less than the danger posed by the 'Alawites. Thus, the Kuwaiti People's Assembly refused to finance the Syrian occupation forces in Lebanon despite Al-Wazzan's pleas.

The major added: We are stating these facts because if the Lebanese understand what is being concocted against them in secret, perhaps they will find a way that will help them to save themselves and their homeland.

3. Do the sons of the Golan know that the Syrian 'Alawite regime has compensated its loss of the Golan Heights by extending its territorial waters? Do they also know that if they persist in their stubbornness, they will be the only losers? They will lose everything for the sake of the 'Alawite regime which sold them very cheaply.

4. We denounce the detonation of boobytrapped cars in densely-populated quarters and among poor and innocent people, regardless of the purpose behind this. Those who are carrying out these barbaric and criminal operations want indignation to prevail among the inhabitants of the occupied areas so that they will create popular pressure against the Syrians and the swindlers and demand that they be replaced by the Lebanese army. On our part, we have demanded and still demand that the army replace the occupying foreigners. However, we oppose such a replacement if it should occur as a fruit of this method of killing innocent people in a criminal and barbaric way.

5. We ask the army command in Al-Yarzah how it accepts its military sons being killed at the hands of the Syrians, swindlers and others without doing anything, as happened to the Lebanese military truck in 'Alayh, or in Ash-Shuwayfat and other places against Army personnel, individually and collectively. Moreover, Lebanese Army officers and soldiers are being kidnapped on the roads, their dignity insulted and sometimes they are liquidated at the hands of the foreign aggressors. Instead of providing protection and dignity to its personnel, we find that this command is playing down these attacks by distorting and erasing facts.

On our part, we ask Army officers and soldiers how long they will continue to accept being treated like a trading commodity in the market of their command and its masters -- the Syrians and the swindlers?

If there are Army personnel, who uphold their dignity and really want to serve the homeland after it has become clear that they are being used to serve traitors and plotters, let them ask their conscience and human and national dignity what they should do and let them join the free Lebanese Army, the army of all the Lebanese, the army of deliverance, the army of future Lebanon.

U.S. ENVOY HABIB ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS 2 MAR

JN021444 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1440 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Damascus, 2 Mar (SANA) -- Philip Habib, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's envoy to the Middle East, arrived here at noon today on a visit to Syria as part of his current tour of the region.

He was welcomed at Damascus International Airport by Nasir Gaddur, assistant minister of foreign affairs, Dr Sabah Qabbani, director of the U.S. Department at the Foreign Ministry and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Damascus.

Received by Khaddam

JN021750 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1745 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Damascus, 2 Mar (SANA) -- 'Abd Al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Philip Habib, the U.S. president's envoy to the Middle East, at the Foreign Ministry at 1730 today.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister Nasir Qaddur, Dr Sabah Qabbani, director of the American Department at the Foreign Ministry, Morris Draper, U.S. assistant secretary of state, and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Damascus.

PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL FRONT ISSUES STATEMENT

JN022238 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2125 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Statement by the Central Command of the Progressive National Front PNF issued on 2 March]

[Text] Proud masses of our people: Today, Arab Syria is facing a fierce colonialist offensive aimed at its steadfastness, strength and rejection of imperialist and Zionist hegemony, and at its effective confrontation of hostile plots. Syria has rejected peace [sulh] with the Zionist enemy, because this peace would be at the expense of the rights, soil and principles that our people have accepted as their path to freedom and dignity, and at the expense of the sacred Palestinian cause, the central cause of the Arab nation in its just struggle with its enemies.

Syria attempted to bring the Arabs together to face Camp David and the U.S. imperialist schemes. Syria declared that the only front along which the Arabs must fight, gather around and pool their resources to strengthen is the front of struggle with the Zionist enemy. It is the front that extends from Lebanon to the Golan to the West Bank and Gaza facing the enemy. This is the primary battleground for the Arab nation. Arab Syria stood against the creation of peripheral battles in order to pool all efforts and resources against this enemy that aims against the security, existence and future of the Arab nation. Syria bravely stood in the face of every collusion and diversion, and was able, following Israel's final annexation of the Golan to Israeli sovereignty, to expose the United States and have the highest international authority issue a decision condemning the United States and Israel. Of all the states in the world, 4/5 stood at our side supporting our right to liberate our territory and restore usurped Palestinian rights. Syria and the Syrian people had to pay the price. Now, the imperialist-Zionist forces are goading their hired agents from the Muslim Brotherhood gang to cause domestic trouble in order to terrify the people of Hamah and kill their sons so as to break their heroic stand against the gang's imperialist and reactionary masters.

The alertness of the people of Hamah has been the decisive factor in wiping out the plot and the plotters. The plotters wanted their plot to be wider and more effective, but the alertness of our people and their genuine patriotism prevented the realization of their aims.

Our people will continue pursuing them until they finish them off forever. Our people will triumph against the reactionaries as they always have, so that Syria's Arab face will remain a patriotic and progressive face of struggle where there is no place for agents or hirelings.

Our people know well the history of the Muslim Brotherhood gang. They were the ones who shot at late leader Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir in an assassination attempt when he announced the nationalization of the Suez Canal. This was done in preparation for the tripartite aggression against Egypt. They also carried out an act of bloody sedition in 1964 when Syria, on the anniversary of the 8 March revolution, decided on nationalization in the interest of the people and the public sector. They also tried to foment a big sedition in Hamah in early 1973 while Syria was preparing to wage the October war of liberation. They also harmed our people, their values and their holy places when they began killing our young men, technical and scientific cadres and assassinating the cream of the sons of the nation. They were the ones who terrorized Hamah last month in a desperate attempt to harm our people, their steadfastness and their glorious and courageous stand against U.S. hegemony over the Arab nation.

Brother citizens, the PNF Central Command in Syria announces to all that Syria will remain steadfast under the courageous leadership of comrade struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, that it will not weaken and will not permit imperialism and Zionism to achieve their schemes and objectives. Syria will remain impregnable to conspirators. Our people's history is replete with heroic deeds and sacrifices. Our people will not be scared by pressures and conspiracies, regardless of their magnitude. Our people will stand in one cohesive group. Our national unity will remain an impregnable bastion unharmed by sabotage, conspiracy or disturbance. Our domestic front will remain strong and cohesive in the face of the nation's enemies. Arab Syria will pursue the struggle against the United States and its policy in the Arab region and in the world. We shall not cease our struggle against the Zionist enemy and we shall not permit it to achieve the objectives of Zionism in establishing a greater Israel. We will continue our fierce struggle to achieve our incremental objectives of liberating the occupied Arab territories and regaining our Palestinian Arab people's national and historic rights.

The PNF Central Command in Syria appeals to the nationalist and revolutionary parties and forces in the Arab homeland and appeals to the popular, professional and trade union organizations to escalate their struggle now to prevent Arab rulers from any collusion with the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism and to prevent any defeatism in confronting the enemies of the nation and the homeland. From steadfast Damascus, we call on the Arab nation's masses from the [Atlantic] Ocean to the Gulf to adopt a militant stand commensurate to the magnitude of the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary onslaught. We call on them to expose the filthy role U.S. policy assumes in the region as a strategic ally of the Zionist enemy on one side and as a primary enemy of peoples and freedom in the world.

Increasing the number of blows against U.S. interests is a duty dictated by the pan-Arab struggle just as we are dutybound to achieve victory over the Zionist enemy, the first ally of world imperialism. The front of the enemies of the Arab nation -- imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries -- has become clearly visible and the front of the friends of the Arab nation has also become clearly visible, represented by the forces of liberation, progress and socialism in the Arab homeland and the world at large. Let us increase our cohesion with our friends and let us struggle to confront our enemies and repulse their policies and their ideological and material bases.

We listen daily to threats from the leaders of the Zionist enemy. We also listen daily to scores of radios squirting venom and rancor against our steadfastness and country.

Their threats will not weaken us but increase our power and firmness. We will face their threat with the courage of our people who will not be affected by their concentrated media campaign and by the venom which they spit via their media. Our people will receive their propaganda and radios with ridicule and contempt. Our people have proved, particularly in difficult days, that they are on a high level of alertness and awareness, that they are brave and courageous people. Threats and warnings cannot terrify us, and vicissitudes will only intensify our adherence to our aims and our determination to realize these aims.

Brother citizens: We in the PNF are aware of our pan-Arab responsibilities. We, therefore, announce to our masses that the plots against our heroic country will continue so long as our country remains steadfast in confronting the enemy plots. This plotting will assume various forms. The increasing economic pressures against our country demand from us more work and production and more belt-tightening and austere measures. Let all know that our economic resources are unlimited, that with our resources we are capable of fighting for many years, that our factories and farms can ensure our struggle requirements for many years and that any economic embargo will only increase our determination to work more and produce more. Our people who are our better weapons in confronting imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries and who are facing psychological and economic wars need from us now more than ever before more cohesion around them and more interest in their causes. Our people, particularly our struggling and productive masses, require a free and dignified life. Our cohesion with the Palestinian revolution is a strategic cohesion of struggle. We will continue doing our utmost to realize more cohesion with the Palestinian revolution. We will bring our ranks closer in order to realize the joint pan-Arab aim, liberating the holy land and restoring the pan-Arab legitimate rights. We will not allow any plotting to weaken our unity of struggle with the Palestinian revolution. Arab Syria will remain a steadfast bastion for the Palestinian people. They will fight with Syria and from it they will struggle and triumph. The front of our friends in the world is wide and strong. Foremost among this friendly front are the socialist states headed by our strong friend the Soviet Union. On this occasion we announce to all that our friendship with the Soviet Union will be further deepened and strengthened. This friendship has been tested over dozens of years and on dozens of occasions. Our enemies have been unable to weaken this friendship. Let our relations with this friendly front be promoted and let our ties be strengthened to the maximum. We will defeat imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries sooner or later.

Greetings to our struggling masses, greetings to our sons in the heroic armed forces. Our brave army has proved over the years that it is the true bastion of the revolution, the symbol of our national unity and our strong arm with which we will strike and triumph over our enemies. Greetings to our brave armed forces in the Arab nation's most advanced trench of confrontation in the struggle with the Zionist enemy. We pledge that we will not spare efforts, resources or attention in order to take care of our army and make available to it all the means of struggle. Greetings to the leader of our people and army comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, leader of the PNF. Victory and immortality to our glorious Arab nation.

RADIO REVIEWS 'ANGRY POPULAR MARCH' IN HAMAH

JN022033 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] The city of Hamah today staged an angry popular march by 100,000 of the city's children, women, youths and old people, to denounce the ugly and savage crimes perpetrated by the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang against the homeland and innocent citizens.

The angry masses gathered, despite heavy rain, in front of the governorate house, shouting slogans: We Are With You Hafiz al-Asad; We Are With You Our Leader; There Is No Place for the Muslim Brothers Among Us.

Comrade Ahmad al-As'ad, Hamah Ba'th Party branch secretary, delivered the Ba'th Party's speech praising the heroism of the sons of militant Hamah, their steadfastness and their confrontation of the criminal Muslim Brotherhood gang.

Addressing the crowd al-As'ad said: The expressions of hope that I see on your faces and the determination I have sensed during this confrontation makes us proud of you. He added: We have been pained by the acts of betrayal, the acts of the criminal gang. Pain, however, does not kill lively nations. Pain creates militant people. Al-As'ad said: The criminals, spurred by their connections with Israel, tried to destroy every courageous and noble stand, every act of building and sacrifice made by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the leader of the Ba'th comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad without taking into account the faith of our people in their party and leaders and in their national unity which is now being embodied in this glorious manner and which has gushed forth from pain and out of hatred for their ill-omened moves and the crimes they committed against sons and mothers.

Comrade al-As'ad added: We are an undaunted and proud people who are not scared by seditions and conspiracies. We are stronger than their seditions and conspiracies. We have shown them mercy and acted magnanimously toward them as dictated by our Ba'th Party because the patience of the Ba'th Party is great. We have done so with the hope that they will desist from the wrong course and to win them over as honest citizens who will remain with us in this homeland because we seek to revive Arab civilization. This is the mission of the Ba'th Party and its command.

He also stressed that the Ba'th Party has pure revolutionary men who can wipe out any conspiracy and that the Hamah people's commitment to their national unity will remain far greater than conspiracies.

Comrade al-As'ad concluded by reiterating a pledge to President Hafiz al-Asad, the hero of steadfastness, to remain behind his courageous leadership on the road to construction and liberation.

Hamah Governor Dr Muhammad Harbah delivered a speech in which he stressed that the Muslim Brotherhood gang is committing crimes in implementation of imperialist and Zionist schemes and that our people are fighting to achieve national unity and to raise the Arab nation's banner and safeguard its dignity. He said: There is no place for agents and reactionaries in our country. Hamah's citizens are eager to defend their achievements and their revolutionary gains and they can only be with the Ba'th Party because the Ba'th Party is the road to development and to liberation under the courageous and wise leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad.

Comrade Su'ad Bakkur, president of the Hamah Women's Federation Branch, delivered a speech on behalf of the popular organizations. She said: With the beginning of March, the month of good, the month of the revolution, we celebrate our victory over the agents of the Muslim Brotherhood gang who have gone beyond all bounds in their delusions and dirty crimes against the sons of our people. She added: The gang killed children and women while our Ba'thist brothers were distributing bread, food and milk to children. Comrade Bakkur wondered: How does this compare with God's prophet's saying: He who believes in me 1 hour in the day, his faith will sustain him the entire day while his neighbor will remain hungry.

Comrade Bakkur stressed that Islam is a religion of love and sacrifice, a religion of security and peace. The Muslim Brothers, however, contradicted this and carried out acts of sabotage against their sons, their relatives and economic institutions. By doing so, they have destroyed themselves with their own hands to offer the best service to colonialism, imperialism, and to Israel in particular.

Comrade Bakkur wondered: How can Iraqi and Jordanian rulers justify their ill-omened acts of providing the gangs of criminals with funds and weapons? She also stressed that our Arab people will call them to account, as the Egyptian people called As-Sadat to account.

The comrade president of the Hamah Women's Fedeation branch praised the heroic stands of Hamah citizens against all forms of colonialism. She called for them to close ranks and work together to wipe out the remnants of this gang that sold out its people, honor and homeland.

Concluding her speech, Comrade Bakkur said: We shall remain loyal to the pledge to offer sacrifices so that the banner of Arabism will remain fluttering and the march of our party, the march of the Ba'th Party, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, will continue until our Arab nation's objectives are achieved.

Shaykh Mustafa Awwab delivered a speech on behalf of the Hamah men of religion in which he stressed that Hamah will continue to remain the city of heroism, sacrifice and offerings, the city of Arabism and Islam under the courageous leadership of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. In his speech, Shaykh Awwab wondered: Is it true that the Syrian command bans citizens from performing religious rites? I reassure you no, a thousand times, no. The dissemination of such propaganda and falsehoods by imperialism and Zionism is aimed at the steadfastness of our country and the destruction of our national unity in this steadfast country. Shaykh Mustafa Awwab added: Some people came forth in this country who sowed corruption, death and destruction. It was inevitable therefore to save the sons of Hamah and the other cities from this agent and rancorous clique, the criminal Muslim Brotherhood gang, which had killed innocent citizens. Our militant masses and Hamah have been saved from them and the city has returned to normal.

The widow of martyr Riyad Jamal delivered a speech on behalf of the martyr comrades. She stressed that the gang of criminals and treachery, which has taken religion as a cover for atrocious and barbaric crimes, is a gang which has nothing to do with religion. She said: Our best consolation for our martyrs is that they were martyred in defense of the nation, of the party and the revolution, the revolution of the Ba'th Party, the glorious March revolution, which took place for the sake of all citizens in response to their aspirations and for the sake of construction and liberation.

The widow of martyr Riyad said that the agent and criminal Muslim Brotherhood gang elements thought that by assassinating a number of our Ba'thist comrades and innocent citizens, by murdering women and children, burning stores and commercial centers and committing historically unparalleled savage crimes, they would be able to hamper the progress and march of our masses and the Ba'th Party under the leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the republic. Their crimes are in execution of the orders of their imperialist, Zionist and reactionary masters who gave them arms and money.

Concluding her speech, the widow of martyr Riyad saluted the paternal leader President Hafiz al-Asad and greeted all the Ba'thist comrades, armed Ba'thist units and the security forces for their courageous stand confronting the plot and its executioners from the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang.

Citizen Mrs Dhuhniyah al-Khatib read a poem entitled "With You Our Great Leader," in which she greeted Hafiz al-Asad's heroic leadership for the realization of liberation and victory for our Arab nation and deplored the Muslim Brotherhood crimes that wrought ruin and dstruction in Hamah.

Concluding the march, the masses sent the following cable to President Hafiz al-Asad:

The masses of Hamah are shouting in a roaring voice and declaring their anger, wrath and denunciation of the savage and grotesque crimes committed by the remnants of the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang against the nation and the innocent citizens in implementation of the orders of their imperialist, Zionist and reactionary masters at a time when our country is achieving victories over these masters in all fields and at the United Nations.

The Hamah masses express their love and appreciation for the great leader and the great father Hafiz al-Asad, the leader of our march toward victory and liberation, and salute the stand of courage and steadfastness under his wise leadership. We pledge our efforts and sacrifices and we will overcome all costs in order to realize the aims of our nation in realizing unity, freedom and socialism.

Great and steadfast leader, there is no place in Hamah for traitors, agents or criminals and there is no place for the remnants of the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang which donned the guise of religion and exploited its humanitarian values in order to commit savage crimes under the cover of a religion the brotherhood never knew. We promise you that the plants watered by the blood of martyrs will increase the greatness of the country. We send you our love and appreciation from Hamah. Long live the struggle of our masses for unity and liberation. Glory and immortality for our martyrs. Shame and ignominy for traitors and agents, the remnants of the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang.

TV INTERVIEWS HAMAH CITIZENS, MUSLIM BROTHERS

JN020817 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Last night Syrian Arab television interviewed several citizens in the city of Hamah. It also interviewed several elements of the Muslim Brotherhood gang -- gang of treachery and treason, agents of Israel and Zionism. The first interview was with youth Comrade Samir Buraydi, commander of the raiding party in the Hamah Revolution Youth branch, who said: On the morning of Wednesday, 3 February 1982, I was instructed by the Ba'th branch secretary to investigate the situation. I did so with a group of 15 youth comrades. We discovered a group of about 20 Muslim Brothers meeting. We clashed with them for about 1 hour and finally managed to destroy the den without suffering any casualties.

Continuing, he said: Later, in accordance with a telephone call from the branch secretary, we gave first aid to a 6-year old boy shot in the leg by the Muslim Brotherhood gang. I took him to branch headquarters, where field clinics were set up. Afterward, we besieged the area where the post office and government house are located. In cooperation with the security force at the post office, we succeeded in repulsing the brothers. We were then asked to send foodstuffs, particularly milk, to innocent children displaced by the gang. We also gave first aid to old people, women and all our comrades in the party, youth branch and security corps.

Concluding, Comrade Buraydi extended thanks to President Hafiz al-Asad.

Retired citizen Muhammad Sa'id Kujan then talked about the massacres perpetrated by the gang and said: I was living near martyr Comrade 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Adi. At 0200 on Wednesday, 3 February, a large force of the gang attacked us with gunfire, wounding two and martyring one. The gang asked martyr Comrade 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Adi to give up or they would destroy the house with explosives and dynamite. The martyr comrade put up a fierce fight but due to their large numbers the gang members managed to enter the house. They seized him and took him outside, paying no heed to my request to have mercy on his children. I told them: Comrade 'Abd al'Aziz is a pious man, but they replied: We will kill you with him. Leaving, I asked them: How can you kill an innocent Muslim? They replied: We will kill all the 'Adi family. They then pushed me aside, fired at him, and he fell over dead. Some comrades of the armed battalions then rushed to rescue Comrade 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Adi. As a result, the armed elements took to their heels after blowing up his house with dynamite, explosives and a variety of weapons. I was then transferred to the hospital.

Concluding, he thanked President Hafiz al-Asad and the government for their honorable stand. He wished the president long life and success.

Comrade Ahmad Samman then spoke and said: At 0700 on Wednesday, my comrades told me not to leave my house that day because the gang's elements were in the streets. At 0900 that day, the gang attacked the house of Maj Ibrahim al-Hallaq and opened fire on him. My wife, son and I began to open fire on the gang's elements. We were attacked twice more, but repulsed them. Then more than 70 of them repeated their ferocious attack and we killed 1. They attacked us with bombs. My son was martyred. We continued to fight until we ran out of ammunition. Then they dragged my martyr son into the street.

Concluding, he thanked the party and struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the republic.

Muhammad Mukhlis Shafaqi, a criminal gang member born in Hamah in 1957 and student of architecture at Aleppo University, said: I joined the Muslim Brotherhood in 1980. The person who asked me to join was Tamim Shafaqi. I was entrusted with the task of leading groups distributing antiregime leaflets. Contacts between the Hamah and Aleppo groups were severed after the destruction of the Muslim Brotherhood group in Aleppo. I was instructed to reestablish such contacts, which I managed to do during a visit to Aleppo. When I returned to Hamah I discovered that Tamim had been killed. His brother Khalil contacted me and said he wanted to introduce me to a military official. An appointment was made. The military official turned out to be 'Umar Jawwad, a civil engineer working on silos. I told him how contacts had been established and added that they wanted a message from him. He gave me a message and asked 'Adnan [not further identified] to meet me at a fixed time. The one responsible for 'Adnan was 'Umar Jawwad, who is responsible for the Syrian group. 'Adnan was very restless in Aleppo because all the group's dens had been stormed by the security organs. At my last meeting with 'Adnan, he was desperate and wanted to leave Syria under the pretext of unifying ranks, because many of the gang's elements had abandoned the organization after having been exposed. 'Adnan left the country although he was urged not to do so by the group.

Talking about the terrorist actions of the treasonous gang, he said: We robbed banks and attacked citizens in the villages near Hamah. However, about a month ago, we reached a deadlock because the security organs adopted firm measures that unearthed most of the organization's bases. Therefore, the organization decided to undertake a desperate move that brought about the end of the group.

Shafaqi called on members of the group to come to their senses and to realize that nothing could be achieved, adding that certain people exploited the group. He said some Arab countries such as Jordan and Iraq took advantage of the organization and began to send messages, like the one from Taha Yasin Ramadan, commander of the Iraqi Popular Army, to 'Adnan 'Uqlah seeking his cooperation. They managed to use us. They sent large quantities of weapons. They got involved and implicated some innocent people. Several who felt they were being used decided that the situation was abnormal, put down their weapons and surrendered to the authorities.

Through my leading position in the organization, I assert that this organization began and ended with sabotage without reason. He added that President Hafiz al-Asad has released many members from prison and given every opportunity for amnesty in an attempt to stop the bloodshed and have the gang members return to their senses and right path.

He said that if the Muslim Brotherhood gang had the chance to assume power in Syria, it would not find popular support and the overwhelming majority of the people would strongly resist it because of reactionary concepts that would push the country into backwardness. He added: I advise young and old to guard against the leading opportunist elements directing the group from abroad. They must always be vigilant so as not to be misled by the propagators of destruction. He also called on the group elements to surrender to the authorities, who will treat them well. He expressed great regret for not having surrendered himself.

Criminal 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-'Adari, alias Abu al-Khalid, occupation butcher, said: I joined the Muslim Brotherhood gang at the beginning of 1981. My job was to receive the wounded and guard the weapons. During the Hamah incidents, they brought party members, one of whom was 'Abd ar-Rahman ad-Diri, who were under sentence of death. The sentence was passed by Mahmud al-Hindawi and Husayn Khalaf. We took him to the cemetery, where he was killed by Al-Haj 'Ali an-Nashmi.

'Ali an-Nashmi, alias Abu Sharif, a resident of the Al-Hamidiyah suburb, then spoke and said: On the day of the incident, I was handed a rifle, ammunition and bombs and told to guard the area, which was barricaded. I guarded the area for a whole day and confronted the security men. On the second day I was transferred to another area in Hamah, where a group was located. We were given RPG's to hit any security car passing through the area. I was then asked to work in the cemetery, where party members and the party organ were put on trial. I killed a party member called 'Abd ar-Rahman ad-Diri with a knife.

SOURCE SAYS U.S. THREATS AGAINST LIBYA DENOUNCED

JN280455 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] A responsible source has stated the following: The Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has for some time been exposed to a series of U.S. military threats and economic measures. After the U.S. aggression in the Gulf of Sidra, the United States began adopting measures aimed at undermining the steadfastness of fraternal Libya and obstructing its progressive pan-Arab role.

These U.S. threats and provocations are intended to intimidate the Arab nation, paralyze its potential and prevent it from effectively confronting the U.S. and Zionist schemes. The Syrian Arab Republic, while strongly denouncing these U.S. threats and measures, declared its total solidarity with the fraternal Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. At the same time, it stressed that it firmly stands by the side of fraternal Libya with all the means it possesses in its steadfastness and confrontation of these U.S. threats and provocations, which will be doomed to failure like the previous ones.

ICATU DENOUNCES U.S.-ZIONIST-REACTIONARY SCHEMES

JN021808 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpts] A statement issued by the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions [ICATU] today denounced the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary conspiracy against Syria with the purpose of harming its steadfastness. The ICATU statement added that thanks to the wise and courageous leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Syria is waging more than one battle to achieve success under the banner of progress and socialism.

The statement referred to the new escalating campaign of aggression and conspiracies by imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries -- blatantly and overtly led by the United States -- for striking at Syria's steadfastness and diminishing its leading role in the confrontation of the Zionist aggression and the Camp David schemes. The statement enumerated the series of hostile U.S. stands against Syria and the Arab cause during the past few months such as when the U.S. administration used its veto at the Security Council and stated its support for Israel's measures of expansion in the occupied Arab territories and its measures of oppression against the Arab citizens, thus defying the international community's will.

The statement said that after the failure of all the U.S. pressures and threats against Syria to give up principled stands and the course of liberation, the Reagan administration resorted to escalating the reactionaries' conspiracy against Syria and instructed the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang to carry out criminal acts in a desperate attempt to strike at Syria's steadfastness, weaken its domestic front and divert its attention from the tasks of liberation, development and the task of building the intrinsic strength necessary for these basic tasks.

The U.S. administration was deluded when it believed that with such stands, practices and campaigns of falsehoods and lies against Syria, it could check Syria's steadfastness and determination under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad. Syria, however, stood fast against all pressures and threats and our organized and toiling masses as well as their armed forces rose to repulse the agent reactionary tools, pound the dens of the gangs of crime and killings and put their hands on new material evidence proving that this gang in connected with the U.S. and Zionist intelligence services, and the reactionary, agent and fascist regimes in Baghdad, Amman and other places. Our masses have once again shown that they are committed to revolutionary principles, that they are mature and that their domestic front is strong, thus scoring a new victory against U.S. imperialism, its allies and their reactionary tools.

The statement called on the Arab and friendly working classes to continue exposing the imperialist U.S. policy and its schemes which are hostile to our people and nation and to also expose reactionary stands and practices which support the gang of criminals, recruit mercenaries and provide them with money and weapons to assassinate the sons of our people and destroy our institutions.

BA'TH OFFICIAL AL-AHMAR RECEIVES DPRK DELEGATION

JN022042 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party, today received the Korean Workers Party [KWP] delegation led by Comrade Kim Ki-nam, member of the party's Central Committee and editor in chief of the newspaper NODONG SINMUN, who conveyed the greetings of Kim Il-song, general secretary of the KWP and president of the DPRK, to President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic. He also said the DPRK stands alongside the Syrian people in their just struggle against the imperialist-Zionist plots and the reactionary forces spearheaded by the Muslim Brotherhood gang. He expressed the DPRK's support for Syria's position to liberate the occupied Arab territories and restore the usurped rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

Comrade al-Ahmar welcomed the friendly delegation and asked the Korean comrades to convey President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings to President Kim Il-song and his wishes for progress and prosperity to the people of the DPRK. He asked the delegation to convey the greetings of the Ba'th Party leadership to the leadership of the KWP. Comrade al-Ahmar made a comprehensive review of the Arab region's developments and the recent events particularly when the United States unmasked itself through its attempts to recontrol the region and its all-out support for Israel as manifested by the strategic cooperation agreement between the United States and Israel.

Al-Ahmar reiterated the threats posed by the acts of the United States, world Zionism and the agent reactionary forces against our people toward the region's peace and security. He pointed out that we will confront these acts as well as Israel's aggression and will crush the plots of the reactionary forces and their spearhead, the Muslim Brotherhood gang. We are determined to reach our goals and we will continue our struggle under the leadership of struggling president Hafiz al-Asad until our occupied territories are liberated and until the Palestinian people regain their inalienable rights, particularly their return to their homeland and the establishment of an independent state on their national Palestinian soil, Al-Ahmar concluded.

BRIEFS

TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS -- Damascus, 1 Mar (SANA) -- 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received here this morning Mohamed ash-Sharif, who submitted his credentials as Tunisian ambassador in Damascus. [Text] [Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 1 Mar 82 JN]

SHARON DEFENDS HANDLING OF YAMIT SITUATION

TA021457 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1342 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Knesset address by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, replying on behalf of the Cabinet to the Tehiya faction nonconfidence motion on Yamit situation -- live]

[Text] Mr Speaker, respected Knesset members: Before answering the nonconfidence motion, I would like to approach you -- all of us, including myself -- and I'd like to tell you what you all know, that we are dealing with a difficult and painful subject. I myself believe that this is perhaps the most difficult subject I have ever dealt with. It is difficult for the prime minister, it is difficult for myself, it is difficult for the chief of staff, for the IDF commanders, for the soldiers, and naturally for the police, its commanders. For anyone who is charged with this horrible task it is a horrible difficulty. And I request of you and am asking you as a member of this house -- and I am requesting this also of myself -- : Please let us do this serious task without accusations. We should not be dealing in charges such as who said, who scolded, who did not implement; believe me, this is such a difficult thing, so contrary to everything we have been raised and educated to believe; it is difficult for one and all and particularly for one who has been charged with carrying it out. I have felt this day and night, ever since the beginning of this situation, and the chief of staff feels this as well. And I am directing this same request also to the media, and especially to radio and to television: Please, be a calming factor and do not add more difficulties!

In times past, pressure had been exerted without letup to block the approaches. Why aren't barriers being put up? Why aren't areas being closed off? Why is entry being permitted? Now the tenor has changed; the tone changed suddenly. Without letup, night after night in a tearful voice it is being explained how much the barriers are aggravating the situation, how ineffective they are. I did not come here today to explain what the tasks of the communications media are, but what I do understand is that the state communications media should, in times of difficulties, alleviate superfluous tensions, and not incite superfluous hate among brethren.

I can tell members of the house this: We have an excellent army, and it will execute in full all the resolutions of the government, even the most difficult ones. Israel has a Knesset, it has a government, and the army acts in accordance with government instructions. What calls were made? You [referring to MK Hanan Porat] did not make them here; what are the appeals you made there? [in the Yamit District] The chief of staff is with us, the army is with us. The chief of staff does not belong to anybody, he does not belong to a movement. The chief of staff belongs to Israel.

In the last few months the government adopted a number of resolutions to prevent the entry of people who are not permanent residents, and for the upholding of public order in the Yamit District -- Resolution 251 of 8 December 81, Resolution 282 of 28 December 81 and Resolution 294 of 4 January 82. And this is in addition to the resolution to evacuate the Sinai in accordance with the peace treaty with Egypt, and the Knesset adopted with a decisive majority a resolution to sign the peace treaty. The Knesset could have also decided not to adopt such a resolution, but the Knesset adopted this resolution by a decisive majority.

I know that complaints will probably be heard today -- and I have already heard them -- such as why did we not begin earlier? Why did you not do it before? Why did you not begin this 4 months ago, when opposition was first apparent?

I would like to tell you and all those who see what is happening there every day that you should all be able to understand why we did not start earlier. Believe me, in those months, like the entire Cabinet, I as the one in charge of this issue, and consequently more than anyone else, faced the harshest attacks -- at times I would say they even verged on savagery -- in an attempt to speed up, accelerate, hasten the removal. We withstood this -- the Cabinet did, and I personally did -- and anyone who sees what is happening today can understand why it should not have been done earlier. It is a major mistake of political shortsightedness for anyone to presume to be the sole possessor of political insight. What you did is to bring us to the state of affairs we are in today.

Anyone who sees the difficulties -- and much as we would like... [indistinct interjection from MK Ge'ula Kohen] Believe me, I will explain it all not because I have to explain something to you -- I do not think I have to explain anything to you -- but because I think I have to explain to all of those here.

Anyone who sees what is happening today and observes the difficulties the inhabitants are experiencing, all goodwill notwithstanding, when a permanent inhabitant needs to cross one roadblock and then the second and the third and the fourth and this cannot be prevented because that convoy [alluding to a wedding convoy which attempted yesterday to enter Yamit] itself -- and here the truth must be spoken -- on Friday, when Rabbi Druckman approached me -- and he did not do it on the Sabbath, he did not call me on the Sabbath, it was on the Sabbath eve -- talking about the convoy, I asked him just one thing but did not get an answer to it. I asked him whether those vehicles carried other people as well. I did not get an answer to this, but there were others.

To the same extent, to anyone who complains that people had been prevented from attending the wedding yesterday, let it be clear to him that a wedding or marriage ceremony or bride's gown cannot serve as a ruse to bring more people into Yamit.

[Indistinct interjection by Porat]

Much as we would like to prevent these things from happening, difficulties are caused to the inhabitants. Was there any point in prolonging these difficulties for the duration of 6 months, or would it have been sufficient to do so for only a few days? Was it necessary to conduct a continuous battle -- that chase in the sand dunes, carried out daily -- for 6 months or should it have been concentrated into the shortest possible time?

[Indistinct interjection by Alignment MK Shlomo Hilel]

MK Hilel, I demand the truth of you, too. You too are required to tell the truth and you are not telling the truth now.

The third reason is the unnecessary burden on the army which should not be borne by the army. And fourthly, political damage. What led to the decisions made on Friday?

[Indistinct interjection by Kohen, who is then urged by Knesset Speaker Savidor to limit them]

We had intended to carry out this activity at a much later date. We knew it would have to be taken, but at a much later date. What prompted us to make the decision on Friday around noon or thereabouts to block the Sinai? Information -- not rumors -- we had received that beginning Saturday morning entry of non-residents would begin. How many rallies did the Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawl hold on Saturday morning? Really, stop being naive here!

We had reports that beginning Saturday night, religious people would enter the area, and, incidentally, you will have to face the trail of nonresistance already tomorrow.

We shall see how true your assertions are, because tomorrow we begin evacuating all those who are not permanent residents. This proclamation has been delivered here, almost in the form of a pledge. And it will be put to the test tomorrow.

Since information of that sort had reached us, and a great number of people was at issue, we decided to close off the Gaza Strip and the Yamit District and the King Shelomo region. On Saturday, when we began hearing -- and all this was done without desecrating the Sabbath -- but on Saturday, when we began hearing in the morning the messages from the Yamit District announcing that the roadblocks would be attacked and broken through by force -- and I propose to you to peruse the messages and the recordings that had been made in Yamit and in the Yamit District settlements -- at the moment when it became clear that this is the situation [indistinct interjection from the audience] -- stop brandishing this issue, this does not befit you. At the moment when we heard those messages, I approached the prime minister and recommended that despite the necessity to take this action on Saturday, it was preferable to concentrate forces on Saturday, and avoid a bloody clash on Sunday. And this is what we did, and I think it was our duty to do this; it was our duty to do this. It is not you who will determine when the clashes will be taking place, which forces will be taking part in the clashes; you have nothing to say in this. It is not you who determines things; who ordained you to decide? Since this is what we saw, and this danger had been facing us, I arrived at the conclusion, I approached the prime minister, I received the prime minister's consent and, consequently, in order to avoid risks, to prevent bloodshed, for this reason we introduced forces on Saturday and, should the need arise, should you force us to do so on Saturday again -- with all the pain involved -- bloodshed to my mind is much worse.

[Radio announcer interjects] Tehiya faction members are constantly heckling the defense minister, we heard that speaker Menahem Savidor is calling them to order.

[Sharon] Again, this test [words indistinct] that there will not be forceful opposition will occur as early as tomorrow. This will be put to the test already tomorrow. I am not concealing this from you. I am telling you that just right now -- and, again, we did not want to do it today -- at this very hour the yeshiva students are being evacuated -- and I am sorry that they are yeshiva students -- from Ofira, I am telling you in the most direct manner that beginning tomorrow, we will begin to evacuate all those who are not permanent residents of the Yamit District. It is you who will be faced with the test, to see whether or not you will raise your hands.

[Indistinct interjection by Porat, followed by indistinct interjection by Kohen who is called to order for the second time]

I would like to explain that this operation which we are trying to carry out is an action that is not common and one that undoubtedly causes difficulties to the permanent residents. We are trying to make things as easy as conceivably possible. We will try to make things easier for the permanent residents even later. This depends on you. Do not stand here talking about the plight of the permanent residents -- you are the cause of this suffering. We are ready to remove the roadblocks at once on condition that this action stop. If not, despite ourselves and with all the pain we feel, the suffering the inhabitants experience will continue. There is no other way, no alternative, with all our efforts to ease things.

I would like to say that I do not believe anyone in this Knesset, or anywhere else, that there is anyone with a right, even the most minute one, to argue that he suffers over the withdrawal more than myself. I regard the withdrawal as a tragedy, but we made a decision and decided to proceed and try to pursue the peace we had signed. We have very many doubts, as do others, but we have undertaken a commitment and we will carry it out. And with all the tragedy involved and despite all the pain -- and I admit that for me this involves a lot of personal pain because of the very fact that settlements must be evacuated -- I still voted for it, like the majority of the members of this Knesset. And I am talking about people whom I have known for years, many of whom have been among my closest friends for years. I am saying a personal tragedy is at hand here, too.

I regard this deed which is happening today as inflicting three major injuries: The first is harm to security. We are embroiled in a situation where the defense budget has been pared. We have limited the defense budget, decreased it, making cuts in everything. We spend millions of shekels daily -- millions of shekels and more every day. We were forced to move units undergoing training, which had earlier been on alert along the borderline and in the north, and could not let them have the period of training that was originally planned for them -- the same short period of training they ought to have gone through. We cut courses in the middle, we removed people from officers' courses -- and I am not talking only about hundreds of people, but about far and beyond more than that.

I would also like to raise something else. Who gave permission, or who authorized you to back the cutting of a security fence. What are you standing here talking about hundreds of handgrenades that had been introduced into the Yamit strip? After all, that fence which you cut near Peri'el, a security fence along a road left unpaved where footprints of infiltrators can be detected, was intended to curb that.

[Indistinct interjection by MK Yuval Ne'eman of Tehiya]

MK Professor Yuval Ne'eman, you know I have a lot of respect for you, but why do you not accept that someone else understands something in these affairs? There are other people who plan, with all due respect that I cherish for you -- and you know it -- for scores of years.

I am saying: To reach a security fence which you know -- and you do know it -- serves as a channel to introduce handgrenades and arms and ammunition from the Sinai. [sentence as heard] Yesterday I reported that just in the last 2 weeks we managed to discover nearly 500 handgrenades on their way from Sinai. Where did they pass? Through here, through this fence and through this trail we succeeded in tracing them. Who gave you permission, who is the source of your authority to cut a security fence? What are you responsible for: Are you in charge of this issue? Many things have happened here, but I cannot recall one single case where a Jew in Eretz Yisra'el knowingly cut a security fence intended to prevent murder and terrorist acts in Israel.

You stood in Peri'el with your communications device and issued directions.

[Indistinct interjection by several Knesset members]

[Radio announcer interjects] The entire Knesset unites against the members of the Tehiya faction, and this perhaps may best illustrate the entire debate. Ge'ula Kohen is hiding her face behind her hands. We can see from here that she is trying to wipe the tears from her eyes. Hanan Porat, who is being attacked by the defense minister is trying to reply, but the Knesset speaker and members of the Alignment faction are trying to silence him, wishing all the time to maintain the quiet.

[Sharon] I would like to point out another harm caused by the actions of the Movement To Stop the Withdrawal: You have severely harmed political matters. Severely. Dark clouds are gathering above our heads, you are forcing us -- yes, forcing -- to lay all the cards on the table. Where is the political sensibility over which you presume exclusiveness? Where is it? Where is your sensibility?

You are harming the unity of the people before the test. Difficult trials are yet to come. You are today sowing dissent and doubts in the hearts of people before we have reached that test. I urge you, members of the Movement To Stop the Withdrawal, to remove your men. Do not force us to do it. Why are you making us do something we do not want to do? Remove your men. You will not be able to force the minority's views on the majority. You will not succeed. Stop your sneaking actions. Stop these games of hide-and-seek. Let us train the army, let us maintain the country's security, do not harm defense. Do not threaten. If you want to protest, organize a demonstration of 100,000 people, or even of 200,000 people.

Stage a quiet demonstration anywhere you want. Demonstrate opposite the Knesset, or opposite the prime minister's office, or in the Malkhey Yisra'el Square [in Tel Aviv]. Organize whatever you want. Is anyone preventing you from protesting? Gather the people and do it!

[Indistinct interjections]

Gentlemen, you can demonstrate near my office too. It's just that there is simply no room there for 100,000 people.

[Radio announcer interjects] When Ari'el Sharon calls on them to organize a mass demonstration opposite the prime minister's office, the prime minister replies in jest: What do you want of me? Please organize the demonstration near your office. And Ari'el Sharon naturally hurries to volunteer and ask the Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawal to organize a demonstration near his office.

[Sharon] I call on you once again: Anyone who presumes to express the opinion of the state can still summon 100,000 people. Do that anywhere you want. Do not do it in a place where all sorts of damage is being caused.

Go back home! I urge you to turn back. And I call you...

[Indistinct interjection by Kohen, who is called to order for the third time and is being asked to leave the hall]

[Radio announcer interjects] Ge'ula Kohen tries to overrule the decision, tries to argue and tell the ushers: Alright, I am leaving. But let me say one or two words to this Knesset. Ge'ula Kohen sat all the time with her hands covering her face, and our impression is that at a certain point in the debate she shed tears. At any rate, the speaker insists that Ms Kohen leave the hall. Huval Ne'eman [fellow Tehiya member] asks the speaker to revoke his decision, as TAMI faction members ask the speaker to also show leniency. Even [Shinuy MK] Amnon Rubinstein tells Menahem Savidor: Please reconsider. This ruling by the speaker arouses the anger of large parts of the Knesset. Or, better said, it primarily angers those Knesset members who sit near Ge'ula Kohen, members of all kinds of parties who approach the speaker, asking him to change his mind. Menahem Savidor is however, adamant and Ge'ula Kohen makes her way out of the building. The Tehiya faction was thus left with only two Knesset members -- Yuval Ne'eman and Hanan Porat.

[Sharon] I call on you, the permanent inhabitants of the Gaza District, in the Yamit vicinity and in Merhav Shelomo [southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula]: We are aware of your plight. We will make things as easy as possible. Do not raise a hand against IDF soliders. Let us carry out this difficult job forced upon us. Let us keep this country from chaos and pandemonium. No one is eager to do what he is forced to do. We all are experiencing the pain of the evacuation, and particularly the pain associated with the evacuation of the settlements. We all share this pain, in this pain we are all united. But let us all unite in the face of the future tests, and to my regret I believe many are to be expected.

[Speaker Menahem Savidor] I thank the defense minister. Knesset members, the house committee has ruled that each faction will be allocated 10 minutes to deliver its address, and I invite the first, MK Roni Milo [from the Likud] and then MK Avraham Katz-'oz [from the Alignment].

[Radio announcer] This was a long speech by the defense minister, which was mostly not read from paper. The defense minister was very excited when he delivered his speech and argued fiercely with the three Tehiya members, and Ge'ula Kohen was ultimately expelled from the hall despite protests by a number of Knesset members. Now, to repeat, after the statement by the defense minister, each faction will deliver an address according to its size. [as heard] The first is Likud member MK Milo followed by the Alignment representatives.

The speakers will mount the podium one after the other to state their faction's position. The debate will be summed up by Prime Minister Menahem Begin. He has sat throughout the debate listening and even arguing. He made a few interjections to Mr Hanan Porat, telling him: I will yet mount the podium and prove to you that you are not speaking on behalf of the people of Israel. When the faction statements end, the Knesset will be called to vote on the Tehiya's nonconfidence motion.

KNESSET MEMBERS DEBATE NONCONFIDENCE MOTION

TA021656 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] In the debate over the nonconfidence motion, MK Katz-'oz of the Alignment accused the government of actually assisting the groups now acting to thwart the Camp David agreements. He accused the Thiya faction of initiating the monstrous characterization of IDF soldiers as cruel bullies.

Yehuda Ben-Me'ir of NRP said everybody feels deep pain due to the evacuation, but one must know what the impossible red line is.

Charlie Biton of Hadash said mistakes committed in Yamit are being repeated in Judaea and Samaria. From Yamit, he said, they are coming out with millions, and are talking of pain. No one is leaving the Bat-Yam slums, and police forcefully disperse demonstrations by the residents.

Yiga'el Horovitz of Telem said there had been time enough to have second thoughts about the withdrawal and reject it. But most of the nation did not want this, and now the painful price has to be paid.

Mordekhay Virshubski says Shinuy will this time vote in favor of the Cabinet, as it understood ultimately that its actions during the last months caused civil strife and a collapse of lawful rule.

BEGIN: WE WILL FULFILL COMMITTMENT TO THE END

TA021804 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1609 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Prime Minister Menahem Begin summing up address delivered at the Knesset at the close of debate on the nonconfidence motion submitted by the Tehiya faction -- live]

[Text] [Passage indistinct] You will not evacuate the Rafah approaches even though you had undertaken an international commitment to do so. The proof is that you cannot evacuate it, or shed Jewish blood. This atmosphere of assembling the masses -- 10,000 youths, all of them young, starting at the age of 15 to 16 -- in such an atmosphere any step would have resulted in bloodshed. This nearly happened on Saturday or Sunday near a roadblock. An officer can also lose his temper after he has been humiliated and kicked. The IDF soldier was called Nazi names, so he pulled out a gun. A more senior officer pointed this out to him and he let go of the gun. But you must understand, ladies and gentlemen, those people -- by and large 18 and 19-year-old youths, our recruited soldiers, after all are bound to fulfill their duty and they did not have live ammunition. So the defense minister ordered that no live arms be put in their hands. So what happened near one roadblcok, unfortunately? There were 20 soldiers there -- if you will permit me to use a colloquial expression, they were minisoldiers [hayalchikim], 18 years of age, without arms. They were assaulted by some hundred people, the roadblock placed by law was destroyed, stepped on, and those 20 soldiers in effect surrendered -- for what could they do? It was 10 to 1 ratio. The commander had the good sense to worry about the army's reputation and he said: It was a mistake and a misunderstanding and there is no need to put up the roadblock. After all, what could he have done?

Who assaulted Israeli soldiers? Who humiliated them? Who destroyed the roadblock?

[Indistinct interjection by MK Hanan Porat]

You should study the Sota [wayward woman] tractate [of the Talmud] if you maintain that I did it.

Well, then, the defense minister instructed the chief of staff -- with my consent and in view of what happened at that same roadblock -- to immediately reinforce the units, even if this required the dispatch of 1,000 soldiers to be stationed at every road block. Send in 1,000 soldiers. This is the only way to prevent bloodshed. If there is another assault by 200 or 300 people, hundreds of soldiers will overcome them and not surrender, nor will there be need for such an invention of the nice phrase that there was a misunderstanding.

This is what he did. If we sinned in violating the Sabbath, was it not to save an endangered life, in the most sublime sense of that term, for the purpose of preventing Jewish blood from being shed? According to what I learned from my father, my teacher, it is a religious duty to violate the Sabbath at such a moment. I, together with the defense minister, fulfilled that precept, out of the duty entrusted to us, and we will do the same in the future if necessary, and no shout or cry by you will help, nor will any trickery or falsehood. It is for the sake of [the sanctity of] the Sabbath that you submitted the nonconfidence motion.

I only wish to announce that we had no time to approach anyone. We were very worried, and I do not wish upon any member of the Knesset to experience such moments in his life, lest, God forbid, one should be hurt, which ever side of the barricade. But for the future, as I promised my friends and colleagues from the NRP as well as my friends and collegaues from Agudat Yisra'el -- and I passed this request on to the defense minister, who noted it -- if an hour of danger occurs -- and I should add a parenthetical note to explain why I am employing this term: I cannot say emergency because this term has to do with war like the Yom Kippur War, may it never recur. So I will use the term hour of danger, like the one on Friday evening, a danger that Jewish blood would be shed. If another hour like that occurs, the defense minister would first of all consult with the chief IDF rabbi, after which he would take action. I promised this, and we will honor this. And if you do not like this, that is alright, you can express nonconfidence in the Cabinet. This is how we will conduct ourselves, this is how I will act.

[Partly indistinct interjection by NRP MK Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, who wonders why the Alignment is all of a sudden so concerned that the Sabbath had been violated]

Mr Speaker, you know what the Sabbath is to me, in my personal life. I will not say a word about it, or my words might be construed to be arrogant. I would only say this: I was a child when I read all the writings of Ahad Ha'am [early Zionist Asher Tzvi Ginzberg, a 19th Century Russian-Jewish writer] and I remember nearly all his essays but more than anything else I remember two things he wrote: his eternal essay called "Slavery Within Liberty," which I occasionally feel like translating into English and sending to some Jews in the Diaspora [the essay calls for a spiritual liberation of Jews instead of intellectual subordination to the culture of the country they live in] for them to learn. He talked about slavery within liberty, whereas in other places Jews lived in the Diaspora and yet they enjoyed liberty within slavery. The second thing I remember well, and will remain with me to my very last day on earth is: more than the people of Israel observed the Sabbath, the Sabbath sustained them [pun on the verb shamar, to keep]. Some said this saying is to be attributed to the sages, but we could not find it among their writings, but this is how it is written in his book, "On the Crossroads." This is what the Sabbath means to me.

So we did not violate the Sabbath; rather, we saved the people of Israel from the worst possible tragedy, from a physical clash and spilling of Jewish blood. This is how we will also act in the future if need be.

I was asked: What proof do you have that those members sitting behind me [Begin is apparently speaking from the Cabinet table, with the Tehiya members occupying the benches behind him] were prepared to cause a situation where blood would have been shed? I will bring the proof today. I already told you about the roadblock. A group of students showed up at the Rafah approaches. They were around 30, headed by a young student whose first name is Tzahi [Tzahi Hanegbi, MK Ge'ula Kohen's son]. The nation heard him say: We will use force against force. Tzahi my son, will you employ force against force? Against whom? Perhaps your mother could tell you about the period when we used force to react to force. Use force against force? That means that you would raise your hand against Israeli soldiers, this being distinctly what you pledged? Together with your fellow 30 students? If the army should use force, you will use force against the army?

[MK Tawfiq Tubi of Hadash] People are paying close attention to him and what he is doing in the universities [words indistinct].

Tawfiq Tubi, we have been friends since the first Knesset. [laughter] I beseech you: Do me a favor and remember the good old times and do not interrupt. All right, all right, Tawfiq Tubi, I want you to know and pass on to others: We want Arab students to study as much as we do Jewish students, but we will allow no student to disturb order, be he Jewish or Arab.

[Indistinct interjections by various Knesset members]

Was that not proof that they were ready to bring about bloodshed? The entire nation heard these remarks: We will use force against force. To this very moment Tzahi and his 30 students are sitting there, but they will not sit there for long. Only in this way will we fulfill our international commitment to maintain peace for which we have been aspiring since the independence war -- all of us together -- and Mr Porat, you will not teach this group of people what Eretz Yisra'el is. These people risked their lives for Eretz Yisra'el long before you were born. Have courtesy and respect.

They risked their lives day and night for Eretz Yisra'el. They bore the flag of Eretz Yisra'el throughout the 30 years before the people expressed their confidence in them so that they could form a government. There was not even one election campaign where we did not raise this banner, but were told that it was counterproductive to us in the election and prevents us from gaining more votes, to which we replied that we would rather lose all the votes in the world but we would continue to raise the flag of Eretz Yisra'el, when it was partitioned. So you will teach us what Eretz Yisra'el and the love of Eretz Yisra'el is? We risked our lives for years in a way against a whole empire for Eretz Yisra'el, yet you wish to teach us what Eretz Yisra'el is? Take a look at the people sitting around this table. Do you know them? Rabbi Hayim [Druckman], can you recognize them? Do you know anything about them?

This was the scheme, ladies and gentlemen, members of the Knesset: to bring many, many people, to the Rafah approaches, including 15-year-olds from the yeshivot, and 16 and 17-year-olds, and fill up the Rafah approaches with people -- so what could the Cabinet then do? One of two things: either surrender -- and one lady Knesset member distinctly said that the Cabinet will surrender, without a shadow of a doubt. She issued an official pledge to that effect. Well, my lady, it will not surrender. Today we are fighting for peace. We are fortunate to have gotten to this. It is true that there are difficulties in peace, they exist; there is pain in peace -- true; there are sacrifices for the sake of peace -- that is also correct. But all these are better than the sacrifices demanded by war. I declare this as the former head of a fighting organization. All we hope for is peace.

Let me tell the Knesset about a thought that is very simple -- why should I not share this with them? I broke my leg, and one day or night -- I cannot remember -- a thought entered my mind that if, heaven forbid, war breaks out, dozens or perhaps hundreds of our young men will lie in a bed with a broken leg or, Lord have mercy, without a leg at all.

War must be prevented. You are even prepared to endanger this people in a new war.

I would like to proclaim that the Cabinet will honor all the commitments we have undertaken in the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. Let it be known that nothing will help, no cry, no hypocrisy, no attempt to amass many people -- nothing will help. We will fulfill the commitment to the end.

Today I heard Druckman say that the withdrawal from the Rafah approaches is a disaster and that this is the reason why he must draw such conclusions [and resign from his post as deputy religious affairs minister]. Rabbi Hayim, you have all the right to think that it is a disaster, but will you deprive me of the right to say that your way might be a disaster? This is your right, and that is my right. You have the right to think that we are turning backs on Eretz Yisra'el, it is my right to believe we are faithful to Eretz Yisra'el. One thing you do not have: You cannot [word indistinct] [Begin is speaking to Druckman, seated behind him].

Mr Speaker, fine. I would like to explain and ask foregiveness, I like to talk to Mr Druckman [laughter].

You have no right, Rabbi Hayim, to try to force your opinion on me. Do you know why? Because the public has given me the mandate to form a Cabinet, and I am a messenger on behalf of the public. You must honor and accept the Cabinet and Knesset resolutions just like any other citizen. There is no exception, nor will there be one. If you want to demonstrate and persuade the people to revoke their mandate -- be my guest, you can do whatever you want. But do not send people to force your opinion on us. You will not succeed in this. And remember what you are putting at stake, what kind of hatred you are implanting in the hearts of 15-year-olds. The yellow badge is a case in point. Woe to the ears that hear this, woe to the eyes that saw this. With my very own eyes I saw people marching with the yellow tag on their chests and backs, and then I said to myself: What has happened to us under the influence of a few people? What has befallen us?

This morning I read an article by a woman I have known since she was very young and is very dear to me, and she wrote more or less this: My grandmother, my grandfather, my mother and father and all the members of my family bore the yellow tag until they were dragged to Auschwitz. Why did you there wear this yellow patch? This is my question. No, that dear woman still could not express the intensity of her feelings. What does it mean? No, what the bearers of the yellow patch in Eretz Yisra'el had in mind was not the young soldiers opposite them, they meant the Cabinet, saying this is a nazi government which shuts up Jews in a ghetto, and will soon remove them from the Warsaw ghetto to the Treblinka concentration camp. This is what I was told: Such comparisons were made and the young boys could hear them. Other youths in Judaea wrote that this is the black Sabbath like its namesake from the times of the British conqueror -- so we have now become the British conquerors of Eretz Yisra'el, carrying out a black Sabbath [reference to 29 June 1946] bringing to Latrun [jail] the leaders of the Jewish settlement. Where are you heading in this course? How can you ruin the morals of the younger generation, the one that studies the Torah in Beny 'Aqiva Yeshivot? How many members of the Knesset are there whose parents donned the yellow badge there? There are some. If I may say so, I am one of them.

You wear a yellow badge in Eretz Yisra'el, where there is an elected government -- one elected democratically -- and a democratically elected Knesset, which when it makes a certain decision both institutions are subsequently asked to carry them out? A yellow tag? Only after I saw it did I understand the verses in Isaiah: [If the lord of hosts had not left us a few survivors] We should have been like Sodom and become like Gomorrah [Isaiah 1:9].

Yellow badge indeed, British conquerers indeed!

[Indistinct interjection by Porat, who apparently continues to cite the next verses in Isaiah]

Mr Speaker, I will not add much to what I have already said. I only want the entire Knesset to understand that this is a bitter hour for all of us. I can say that woe is to me for having gotten thus far. But I have, and I will fulfill my duty to the end. Perhaps at night -- not in the day -- the voice of sorrow and pain wakes over what is happening these days, on what is being done to our youth, but there is no other choice. It is an honor for me to work on this matter, heart to heart and soul to soul, hand in hand, with a man whose name is Ari'el Sharon. His body was riddled with bullets while fighting for Eretz Yisra'el. It is for me an honor to work on this with the head of the IDF's general staff, one of our best commanders -- and we will continue to work with him and he knows that he must carry out all the Cabinet's decisions according to instructions to be given him by the defense minister, to which he is subordinate in accordance with the basic law on the army, without any reservations or misunderstandings.

This is a battle for values for which we have toiled all our lives ever since we became Zionists -- which we became when still youngsters. This is what we are proud of: Eretz Yisra'el, Zionism, Zion, peace, democracy. For 29 years I served in the opposition, and sometimes some of my colleagues tired of the long way, but I persisted and told them time and time again: There is one way, through the voter's ballot. There is no other way, but through the voter's ballot. The day came, and the voter's ballot...

[Indistinct interjection by MK Yuval Ne'eman]

The day came when the voter's ballot showed that this movement received the people's confidence and was asked to form the Cabinet together with faithful partners. We did this. We represent the people and we are conducting the affairs of the state, and no one but us will conduct them. Not anyone. This is the philosophy of freedom in Israel which we have borne as our motto, and will continue to do so despite all the sorrow and pain.

The Knesset will most probably reject the motion to express nonconfidence in the Cabinet for having fulfilled its duty and for continuing to fulfill its duty. I am sure of this, and moreover I am convinced this will be done with a vast majority. This time my conscience is clear in also counting in the the abstainers. Normally those who abstain are not counted, but this time I prefer to count them as well. I am allowed to do so, am I not? It is purely a subjective matter. The speaker will not count them; actually, he will, but he will not compute them together with the aggregate number of votes that count. However, I do. It is a good thing that there is such unity of views in the Knesset. We have differences of opinion, and we will yet raise them and clarify them, perhaps after 2 hours we will again see that our ways diverge -- for you will probably vote on the budget as you think fit, and I will vote otherwise. Yet now, I urge all the people in Israel to unite around its elected government, which is treading the path toward peace, for the prevention of war and bloodshed -- and at all costs for the prevention of the spilling of Jewish blood. Let no brother hit his brother. This must not come to pass.

I thank you, Mr Speaker, for your patience and attention.

KNESSET DEFEATS TEHIYA NONCONFIDENCE MOTION

TA021641 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1635 GMT 2 Mar 82

[From a special extended newsreel covering the Knesset debate on the nonconfidence motion]

[Text] [Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor] The results of the vote of nonconfidence are: in favor -- 4; against -- 58, abstentions -- 43. I hereby declare that the nonconfidence motion was defeated by a majority of votes. Thank you. We are proceeding to the next item on the agenda.

SOURCES SAY PRIME MINISTER FIRM ON YAMIT

TA021254 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Mar 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent 'Uzi Benziman]

[Excerpt] Nothing will help those violating the law in Yamit; the government will not permit any kind of violations of the law and will take legal action against those violating it. This was stated by sources close to the prime minister last night in reaction to incidents in Yamit and Ofira.

The sources declared that no minority would be able to change a Cabinet and Knesset decision and would not be able to impose its will on them. This minority is trying to harm democratic proceedings and to destroy the peace through violence. It is trying to create a situation in which the government would not be able to fulfill its international commitments. The government, however, will not tolerate this and it will implement the peace treaty with Egypt literally -- the sources noted.

The sources quoted the prime minister, who has repeatedly said that none of those opposed to the withdrawal from the Sinai would raise his hand against a soldier performing his duty. They added that the government is doing everything possible to avoid bloodshed and to maintain order. The sources pointed at the disruptions yesterday near the barriers on the road to Yamit and said this was evidence of the wish of both the prime minister and the defense minister to cool the atmosphere and to ease tension hoping that common sense would prevail.

The sources confirmed that there is tension between the defense minister and the chief of staff over the handling of the situation in Yamit. The sources thought that the tension stemmed from the natural nervousness of having to deal with this complex problem. The prime minister believes that neither the defense minister nor the chief of staff want to exacerbate the situation in Yamit and both men want to act in a way that will maintain order and limit friction with the settlers to a minimum. The sources noted that the prime minister talked with the chief of staff about his appearance before the Yamit inhabitants in a softer tone than the defense minister had expected.

Answering a question, the sources said that the behavior of Rabbi MK Hayim Druckman was an internal affair of the NRP. The sources confirmed that Mr Begin discussed the matter on the phone with Dr Burg, who is currently overseas. According to the sources, Druckman's parliamentary behavior did not really alter considerations on whether to hold early Knesset elections.

BEGIN REFUSES TO ACCEPT EYTAN RESIGNATION

TA021130 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1112 GMT 2 Mar 82

[From the "Midday Newsreel"]

[Text] Our correspondent in the Knesset, Razi Barqay, is on the telephone now with information on the chief of staff's offer to the prime minister to resign.

[Barqay -- live] In a meeting held this morning between Prime Minister Begin and four members of the Knesset NRP faction, the participants -- Minister Hammer, Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, Eli'ezer Avtabi and Avraham Melamed -- discussed several issues pertaining to the Yamit District affair. The prime minister, however, relating the course of events regarding the chief of staff, said he was shocked by what he heard over Jerusalem radio. Referring to Eytan's statements at the roadblock when speaking to the settlers, Begin said: I immediately asked to talk to the chief of staff, who in return asked me whether he should resign. I told him: This is out of the question, but you must accept the authority of the government and the defense minister.

Begin further stated that he had asked the chief of staff to issue a clarification that would somewhat amend the impression his remarks at the roadblock had created. Ultimately, the chief of staff said, I cannot correct what was said, and the prime minister finally agreed not to issue a clarification on behalf of Eytan.

This, to repeat, is what was said to the members of the NRP Knesset faction this morning at a meeting with Menahem Begin.

Another issue that was discussed at the meeting was the affair of Deputy Minister Druckman. The end result is that Druckman would resign from his post as deputy minister, but would continue to be an NRP member. This will not prevent him from voting in favor of the nonconfidence motion this afternoon and also to vote against the budget bill which will be raised for the vote immediately after that one.

Likud members told us today that this is an unacceptable situation, but we honor the NRP's wishes. Perhaps with Telem joining the coalition -- which is expected to take place in the next few weeks -- the prime minister would demand that Druckman's position be clarified. These, then, are the initial details from the meeting between the prime minister and members of the NRP Knesset faction.

OFIRA YESHIVA STUDENTS EVACUATED; NO OPPOSITION

TA021719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Dozens of Yeshiva students and members of the Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawal have been evacuated from the town of Ofira. This was reported by our correspondent Eytan Rabin, who was told this by an IDF source. The evacuees were put on a military aircraft. According to the source, they showed no opposition to the action. Their belongings were loaded on trucks under supervision of soldiers.

ANTIWITHDRAWAL GROUP CALLS SUPPORTERS TO YAMIT

TA021720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] The Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawal headquarters has called on all of the opponents of the withdrawal in Israel to come to the Yamit District and be there when the evacuation takes place tomorrow. One of the leaders of the movement, Yosi Mas, emphasized to our correspondent Yaron Enosh that there will not be violent opposition to the soldiers.

Rabbi Yisra'el Ari'el [of Yamit District] has again called on the IDF soldiers to disobey orders and not carry out the evacuation instructions. He too emphasized he would not apply force to show his opposition. He noted that one cannot tell how others would react.

This evening, a few dozen antiwithdrawal activists handed out flowers and refreshments to the soldiers at the roadblocks. Candy and cakes were also given to the soldiers by some dozen Beersheba residents who had come to encourage them and express their support for the IDF.

The attorney general has asked the police to question Rabbi Yisra'el Ari'el on suspicion that he had incited soldiers to disobey orders. This is in regard to statements he had made a few days ago near a roadblock on the outskirts of Yamit.

IDF USES FORCE TO EVACUATE HAZAR HADAR SETTLERS

TA030520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] A large IDF force is now completing the evacuation of settlers from Hazar Hadar, one of the two settlements established by the Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawal in the Yamit District.

Our correspondent, Yaron Enosh, reports that soldiers arrived at the settlement about 1 hour ago and asked the settlers to evacuate the settlement. The settlers refused, began setting tires on fire and locked themselves in the trailers. The rabbi of Hazar Hadar, Isar Klonsky, was arrested and the soldiers began breaking into the trailers with axes. Several settlers resisted and the soldiers were forced to struggle with them. Heavy smoke enveloped the settlement.

Earlier, the IDF blocked the access roads to the settlement of 'Azmona to prevent the settlers there from assisting their friends at Hazar Hadar. Our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, reports that in anticipation of the evacuation yesterday, the IDF conducted observations on the settlements in the Yamit District to see whom it would have to evacuate. Photographs -- including aerial photographs -- were also taken. Security personnel tallied the houses and marked those occupied by citizens who are not residents of the area. Our correspondent notes that the IDF used sophisticated means for night observation. Electronic equipment to monitor radio transmitters was used near the command of the Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawal.

Houses To Be Destroyed

TA030817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] The IDF will dismantle and destroy the buildings at Hazar Hadar [in Yamit District]. About 60 settlers -- the majority of the population -- were forcefully evacuated this morning and were transferred aboard buses and trucks to a camp near Beersheba. It was decided not to arrest them and to send them to their homes after they had been given refreshments.

Our correspondent, Yaron Enosh, reports that three female settlers will remain at Hazar Hadar to watch over property. The barrier near 'Azmona has been gathered at the synagogue in Yamit. Our correspondent, Moti 'Eden, reports that they decided to show passive resistance even if they sustained some casualties.

MUBARAK REPORTED READY TO SOLVE PROBLEM OF VISIT

TA030631 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has said he appreciates the devotion of the prime minister and the entire government to fulfilling the peace treaty despite the difficulties involved in the evacuation of the Sinai. Mubarak told this to the prime minister's former aide on communications affairs, Dan Patir. President Mubarak emphasized that relations between Egypt and Israel would not change after the withdrawal. He has even issued instructions not to hold spectacular celebrations to mark the return of the Sinai to Egypt.

The Egyptian president reiterated that the resumption of relations with the Arab countries would not come at the expense of Israel. Referring to his visit to Israel, he noted he was disturbed by the publicity given to this dispute. He intends to solve the problem of his stay in Jerusalem because he believes that calling off the visit would not ease the dispute over this issue.

BACKGROUND OF DISPUTE OVER MUBARAK TRIP REPORTED

TA021230 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 2 Mar 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpt] Political circles in Jerusalem last night noted that President Mubarak's visit to Israel was vital to the good atmosphere between the two countries and that his refusal to visit Jerusalem -- because of the impression he feels such a visit would make in the Arab world -- had aroused concern and apprehension in Israel.

Actually, Jerusalem sees no chance of President Mubarak reversing his decision not to visit Jerusalem. Nevertheless, the political circles noted that it was still possible to revoke this decision and that neither Egypt nor Israel were interested in turning this into a dispute or a crisis between the two countries.

The following details were learned last night about the circumstances around President Mubarak's decision not to visit Jerusalem: In the course of the talks between Israel and Egypt about the visit it emerged that it would take place shortly after the Egyptian president had concluded his trip to the United States and Europe. In the talks, the Israeli interlocutors repeatedly stated that the visit would be to Jerusalem, and the Egyptian side did not raise any objections. Moreover, the Egyptian side even raised the idea of President Mubarak addressing the Knesset.

The situation changed a few days prior to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to Cairo. In a meeting with Israeli Ambassador to Egypt Moshe Sasson, Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Mubarak does not want to go to Jerusalem. Sasson was asked to inform 'Ali that President Mubarak's visit to Israel would only take place if he came to Jerusalem; otherwise, Israel would have to forego the visit altogether although it regards it as important.

That was the state of affairs when the foreign minister met with the Egyptian president last Thursday. President Mubarak raised the issue, explaining why he does not want to visit Jerusalem. He had two things to consider: Egypt's resumption of relations with the Arab countries and the opposition the visit would encounter among certain circles in Egypt.

Shamir objected to these explanations and elaborated on the damage the failure to visit Jerusalem could inflict on the atmosphere of the relations between the two countries. Among other things, he recalled that this same problem had come up in President as-Sadat's time and that As-Sadat had ruled that ministers would visit the Israeli capital if necessary.

Through most of the 1-and-1/2-hour meeting, Shamir argued that this would harm the peace and normal relations between Israel and Egypt, but Mubarak maintained his position. To avoid a deadlock it was decided that the specifics of the visit would nonetheless be discussed, with Mubarak saying that a special envoy may be sent to Israel to discuss the matter. It should be noted that Minister of Foreign Affairs Kamal Hasan 'Ali will come to Israel on 10 March for a 2-day visit.

Israeli sources last night said that the United States understood Israel's position on the issue of Mubarak's visit.

BORDER MUST BE SETTLED BEFORE WITHDRAWAL

TA021417 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Mar 82 p 5

[Yosef Harif commentary: "The End of the Border in Sinai"]

[Text] There are grounds to assume that both Washington and Cairo have realized that if negotiations between Egypt and Israel on the demarcation of the border do not finish up, the fact that on Friday the IDF blocked the entrances to the Yamit District "until the evacuation" is absolutely irrelevant to the final evacuation on 26 April.

In contrast with this operation which undoubtedly reflects the determination of the government led by Menahem Begin to fulfill all the commitments stemming from the peace treaty with Egypt, is the statement attributed to Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon that Israel will not be able to leave the current line (namely the rest of the territory in the Sinai still held by Israel) before the Egyptians agree on the demarcation of the border between Israel and Egypt.

Evidently the United States got wind of these words through Ambassador Samuel Lewis and Egypt heard about it from Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir during his talks in Egypt.

On the surface these are marginal differences. In one site the argument involves 2 km and on another spot it is only a matter of 500 meters. Nevertheless, the Egyptians are for the time not willing to concede even 1 centimeter.

The mayor of Elat asked the foreign minister to exercise his influence to leave one hotel located on the disputed land. Hearing about it the Egyptians were amazingly generous: "There is no problem... we will be ready to pay for the hotel," they said. Thus, we found that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's reaction had been very categorical. The problem is not the hotel, but that these requests and pleadings inflict great damage. There is no room here for Egyptian "generosity." We are only demanding what is due to us and we do not need any favors from the Egyptians on this issue. The defense minister said as much to the U.S. ambassador: We have specific documents and indications about the line which we demand as the border. These documents date from 1906 and had it not been for them we would not be struggling over the issue.

If this is the case and the defense establishment does have definite identification marks (according to the defense minister, he has three identification marks from 1906, including marks on maps from that period!), then it is easier to understand why the government has been so energetic on this matter to the point of making it clear that if negotiations on the demarcation of the border are not concluded before 26 April, Israel will not move from the present line.

As far as is known, the documents include markings on a map and a detailed written description of the borderline. The Egyptians, however, want to determine the border according to the lines where the parties stood in 1948, at the end of the independence war, rather than in 1906.

What lies behind the "clarifications" about the demarcation of the border that Israel gave to the United States and Egypt? It seems that both the prime minister and the defense minister believe that things that are not accomplished now, before the withdrawal, will probably not be achieved afterwards. In this context, special attention should be paid to the defense minister's remarks:

If we withdraw before the fencing (demarcation of the border) is concluded, we will be sowing the seeds of disaster with out own hands. What may happen -- the defense minister rhetorically asked and added: "it reminds me of what happened on the eve of World War II when newspaper headlines in France and elsewhere asked whether it was worthwhile to 'die for Danzig' (the border dispute between Poland and Germany), or during the waiting period preceding the 6-day war when people shouted at us: 'Is it worthwhile to die for Al-'Aqaba or Elat?'"

Indeed this will be the situation. Egypt and Israel are today in dispute over 16 points along the southern border. If the dispute is not settled now there is no doubt that the situation will evolve according to Sharon's scenario: Did you make do without peace just for a few hundred meters? Israel will be asked. Others, including real friends, will give friendly advice to Israel: Well, really, will you imperil everything and, who knows, maybe world peace, for something as marginal as this!...

This is a familiar and unpleasant situation. Presumably, instructions have been issued about the location the IDF will have to assume on 26 April 1982. If the IDF soldiers arrive there and find Egyptian soldiers in several locations, then that will not be the day marking full peace but the day on which one struggle ended and a new struggle began.

It seems that as far as Egypt is concerned -- and surely from the U.S. point of view as well -- this argument over "the demarcation of the border" had best be concluded before the final withdrawal, while there still prevails "a good atmosphere" in the wake of Minister Shamir's visit to Egypt and his disappointing meeting with President Mubarak. If an understanding cannot be reached in "a good atmosphere" then what will happen after 26 April?

W. BANK MAYORS CRITICIZE MITTERRAND'S VISIT

TA030636 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Mayors from the administered territories have criticized the visit of President Mitterrand to Israel. In an announcement, the mayors said the timing of Mitterrand's visit is bad and they call on the French president to recognize that the PLO is the Palestinians' sole representative and to invite Yasir 'Arafat to Paris. The Arab mayors also demand that Mitterrand condemn Israeli policy in the territories. A number of West Bank mayors are to meet with French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson later this week at the French consulate in Jerusalem.

SECURITY RELATIONS WITH FRANCE TO BE SOUGHT

TA021246 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Mar 82 p 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] Israel will try to renew procurement relations and security cooperation with France in the wake of President Mitterrand's visit to Israel, scheduled to begin the day after tomorrow [as published] and to end on Friday in the afternoon.

It was emphasized in Jerusalem yesterday that traditional cultural and trade relations exist between Israel and France. Since President de Gaulle, however imposed an embargo on French arms deliveries to Israel in 1967, there have been no security relations between the two countries. During Mitterrand's visit, his hosts will try to change the situation. The Israeli hosts will also ask to purchase a nuclear reactor for producing electricity.

Jerusalem attaches great importance to Mitterrand's visit and wants it to be a very dignified event, similar to the receptions given to Presidents as-Sadat and Carter. Government sources claim that the visit to Israel will not harm France's relations with the Arab countries but will improve France's status as an international force dealing with Middle East affairs. Never before has a French president visited Israel, and that is one reason behind the prime minister's orders to see that the guest is comfortable and that his wishes are met.

It is hoped in Jerusalem that a significant improvement in Israeli-French relations will signal a promotion of Israel's status in West Europe due to the clout France currently has in Europe. Mitterrand has been a persistent advocate of the Camp David accords and upon his election he even expressed himself in a way implying objection to the Venice declaration. Mitterrand differs with Israel on the Palestinian issue and the status of the PLO.

PRESS VIEWS MITTERRAND VISIT, SINAI EVACUATION

TA030720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 3 Mar 82

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] The Jerusalem POST writes that although Israel's bilateral relations with France are already good, they could still stand some improvements.

The great challenge, however, is to set the two countries on a course of cooperation rather than collision on the principle issues relating to the future of peace in the region. With Francois Mitterrand in the Elysee, this seems less of a distant prospect than it was before last year's French presidential election.

DAVAR says that Israel is now in the midst of an internal struggle involving the painful evacuation of the Yamit District. The possibility should not be ruled out that precisely today when the senior French guest arrives here things will come to a head. The evidence about internal doubts may illustrate for the guests the heavy price that Israel has and will pay in exchange for peace with Egypt. It is doubtful whether this dear price is properly appreciated by the world. Being on the spot, hopefully, may give the French president and his entourage a good idea about the Israeli people's wish for peace.

This morning, 'AL HAMISHMAR carries editorials in both Hebrew and French. It writes that the happiness of the MAPAM organ -- the newspaper of the Israeli left -- is double since the illustrous French president is also the leader of the French Socialist Party which under Mitterrand's leadership returned to power. The paper adds: We appreciate the president's friendship toward the Jewish people and the State of Israel. Upon assuming the presidency, Mitterrand changed relations between the two countries, and this change is not the consequence of a transient political trick but the expression of the president's friendship toward the Jewish people and of his understanding of the pain and tragedy it suffered for hundreds of years. This change also reflects President Mitterrand's fundamental and consistent opposition regarding Israel, its right to exist and its security. The Israeli public greets the French president, his wife and his entourage with the traditional greeting: welcome.

HA'ARETZ says that the security forces may use force to expel the squatters. If that is the case, the responsibility will lie with those resisting the withdrawal. A country that respects itself and wants other countries to respect it cannot tolerate rebelliousness. It may and in fact it must quell rebelliousness when it dares to raise its head.

HATZOFE writes that the moment of truth has come. Those opposed to the Sinai withdrawal are entitled to express their protest and pain over the uprooting of Jewish settlements. But, please, do it without quarrels, violence and resistance to the IDF soldiers. The orders of the IDF must be obeyed because it is carrying out the government's policy and there must be an abstention from any move liable to spark a quarrel and a dangerous confrontation the scope of which cannot be foreseen.

INTELLIGENCE CHIEF SAYS IRAQ ENCOURAGES TERRORISM

TA021737 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Mar 82

[From the evening newsreel]

[Text] Head of the intelligence branch in the general staff, Maj Gen Yehoshu'a Sagi, is disclosing this evening that Israel has good reason to believe that the sabotage perpetrated against the vessel Orion [gutted by fire in Haifa Bay] was the responsibility of the 15 May organization. Reacting to statements stemming from the U.S. State Department that Iraq is allegedly not involved in a conflict with Israel and may consequently be supplied with arms, Major General Sagi said that Iraq is actively encouraging the terrorists, and during the last year it even doubled its efforts. As for the State Department's statements that the balance of arms between Israel and the terrorists has not been violated, he said that in recent months the artillery strength of the terrorists has doubled, particularly in regard to medium-range guns, and their firepower in Lebanon constitutes a real threat.

Further Details

TA021845 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] The director of Israel's military intelligence, Maj Gen Yehoshu'a Sagi, says the PLO is conducting a major arms buildup in southern Lebanon, and he is amazed at American statements to the contrary. Shim'on Ayalon reports.

[Begin recording] [Sagi] ..terrorists, and not only Palestinians. That includes strangers from all over the world. (?Miar) from Chile, Monteneros from Argentina, IRA from Eire, Baader-Meinhof from Germany, Japanese Red Army from Japan, and others. They train them in Iraq, giving possibility to the mentioned organizations to establish camps, training camps, offices and other facilities in Iraq, giving Iraqi [word indistinct] to the terrorists, to further abroad, carrying in diplomatic Iraqi mail explosives and armaments to be used abroad.

[Ayalon] General Sagi gave a rundown of the additional arms the terrorists in Lebanon have received since the cease-fire last year, arms that more than doubled their firepower. In addition, there are expeditionary forces from Libya, Yemen and other countries. The general said that while there were reports that the terrorists had received 180mm long-range cannon, these reports could not be confirmed.

[Sagi] We have information that is not confirmed yet about trying to buy land-to-land missiles in Brazil, which means more or less a new Brazilian type of Katyusha, which has the range of about 40 up to 70km, but I cannot confirm it. [end recording]

YESHIVA STUDENTS, ARABS CLASH ON TEMPLE MOUNT

TA021810 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Thirteen Yeshiva students, apparently from Qiryat Arba', this evening broke into the Temple Mount and held evening prayers there. Dozens of Arabs from the Awqaf attacked them with stones and knives and one Yeshiva student was injured by a stone which hit him in the head.

Our correspondent Moti 'Eden reports that one of the Arabs who had left the mosque after prayers was knifed. The Yeshiva students claimed that they were protesting the plan to hand over the Temple Mount to foreign sovereignty.

The Jerusalem police spokesman reported that the police are searching for the participants in the scuffle from both sides.

BI'R ZAYT DEMONSTRATION DISPERSED WITH TEAR GAS

TA021642 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1520 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Ramallah, 2 Mar -- Security forces on Tuesday dispersed with tear gas grenades a demonstration of high school students in the town of Bi'r Zayt which was protesting the closure of the university. The demonstrators rioted for a long time in the streets of the township and after they refused to obey the security forces call to disperse, they were dispersed by tear gas grenades.

MODERATE DRUZE FAIL IN ATTEMPT TO END STRIKE

TA020540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] An attempt by a moderate group of Druze to bring about an end to the Golan Druze strike failed last night in Majdal Shams. Some 100 inhabitants discussed a proposal to end the strike but to meanwhile continue the negotiations over the Druze demand that Israeli law not be applied to the Golan Heights. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar, however, says that due to differences of opinion, the participants in the meeting dispersed without reaching any decision. Meanwhile, three of the administrative detainees in the local villages have asked the authorities to allow their relatives to leave Majdal Shams to visit them in the Ramla jail.

TEMPORARY TRAVEL PERMITS ISSUED TO GOLAN DRUZE

TA021213 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] The IDF has begun issuing travel permits to the Golan Druze who work in Israel or wish to visit villages other than those they live in. The permits are valid for 3 months.

Our correspondent, Yo'el Dar, has been told that no basic change has occurred in the situation and that the IDF is now prepared to remain in the region for a long period of time.

There is complete quiet in the Druze villages and no attempt has been made to violate the public order.

The strike continued today, and only 200 employees went to work.

SOME GOLAN DRUZE REQUESTING IDENTITY CARDS

TA030545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Druze inhabitants on the Golan Heights have asked the Interior Ministry to issue them Israeli identity cards. It has not yet been disclosed how many people this involves. Our correspondent, Yo'el Dar, notes that many of these Druze held Israeli identity cards but returned them under pressure of the clerics and the pro-Syrian Druze. Some Druze are now requesting identity cards in order to receive transit permits to work in Israel.

The IDF yesterday distributed milk and bread to widows, orphans and needy people in the Druze villages free of charge. The strike organizers, however, successfully convinced some Druze to return the foodstuffs. A cleric urged his colleagues to impose a religious boycott on those people starving the children and keeping them from drinking milk because of political considerations.

Another two Druze of the Golan Heights were put under administrative arrest yesterday, bringing the total number of arrested persons to eight, most of them residents of Majdal Shams.

LATE REPORT: FRANCE'S MITTERRAND ARRIVES 3 MAR

Navon Greets

TA031254 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1213 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Speech by President Yitzhaq Navon welcoming French President Francois Mitterrand to Israel at Ben-Gurion Airport on 3 March -- live]

[Text] Honorable President of France and Mrs Francois Mitterrand:

On behalf of the Israeli people it is a special and real pleasure to warmly and emotionally greet you and the honorable entourage accompanying you. My blessing is wholehearted and not merely a ceremonial obligation. You are not a stranger to us, neither are we a stranger to you. In our eyes, you are a true friend who adheres to his principles and whose word is a word of honor. The history of your life symbolizes for us the great and noble French people with all their human, cultural and social values which for generations have influenced the entire world.

Honorable President, your visit takes place at a time when we are on the verge of the final evacuation of our army from the Sinai. As you know, this has caused a stormy argument among us because it involves the painful uprooting of settlements and people. This is one of the sacrifices made by Israel because it yearns for peace, because it honors its commitment in the peace treaty with Egypt with the hope that the peace will be lasting and will in the future embrace additional countries in the region.

Honorable President, this is not your first visit to our country but this is the first visit by a French president to the State of Israel and all of us feel the deep historical significance this visit entails. In the history of relations between our two nations there are many chapters engraved in gold, only a few lines of which we will be able to mention during your stay with us. We all aspire to be able to read more billiant pages written by you and that the clouds which have occasionally darkened our skies will blow away with the wind, never to return.

I am certain that everywhere you will visit you will sense the feelings of warmth, respect and appreciation pulsating in the hearts of the people toward you and your great nation. Welcome on your arrival at Zion. Welcome to Israel Mr President and Mrs Mitterrand; you are at home.

Mitterrand Statement

TA031312 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1219 GMT 3 Mar 82

[French President Francois Mitterrand speech upon arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport on 3 March: speech in French followed by Hebrew translation, processing from Hebrew -- live]

[Text] Mr President, ladies and gentlemen: I am very happy to be here. As president and on behalf of the French people I greet the Israeli people and pay homage to this nation and its institutions. I have come to negotiate with you who represent the people. We have things to say to each other. I am very touched by your welcoming speech upon my arrival.

I hope that my visit will contribute to reviving the feelings of friendship and respect between the French and Israeli peoples. This revival will prevail and we will never go back on it. We all search for peace, which we have all longed for -- both for you and us -- for hundreds of years. Thanks to our nations we will achieve that progress and that progress is decisive because peace, even if achieved step-by-step, will ultimately be worthwhile.

We cannot be satisfied as long as peoples are in conflict and there is no peace or respect between them. I can only say that we are bringing along our wishes and aspirations that both nations together should look forward and jointly expand their future perspectives in order to act together so that we can mutually act toward solving the problems affecting us.

Be certain, Mr President and through you the entire Israeli nation, that a true friend has come to visit you today and I am saying this on behalf of all France. Through its president, I bring words of friendship to you. Thank you. [applause]

ALGERIA

'ARAB OFFICIAL' CITES IRAQ-IRAN MEDIATION EFFORTS

GF021717 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 1 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] The issue of mediation between Iraq and Iran to stop the fighting between them and to hold negotiations to resolve their dispute on a number of issues is still a give-and-take issue revolving around denial and confirmation.

Commenting on this issue, an informed Arab official informed AL-ANBA' that despite the announcement that Iran rejected mediation with Iraq to stop the war and enter negotiations to resolve the conflict peacefully, it is certain and obvious that Algeria is now playing a distinct role in this issue and is cooperating and coordinating with the nonaligned group and the United Nations.

The official, who preferred to remain anonymous, said Algeria can move only within specific limits due to many considerations, most important of which is that it is an Arab state. Thus, it cannot go far in its mediation with Iran. For this reason, it is working slowly and carefully to guarantee success.

Commenting on previously announced Syrian achievements in the mediation issue, the official said Syria's preoccupation with several internal and external issues has somewhat obstructed its role in this issue and that this preoccupation has not permitted it to move as expected.

As far as the role of the Gulf states is concerned, the official stressed that the GCC states bless any effort to enhance this process. He added that these states support such efforts on the bases of their belief in the necessity of ending the war and bloodshed and of restoring tranquillity and stability to the region to prevent interference by the superpowers in the affairs of the region's states. However, he stressed the GCC states emphasize Iraq's rights and other Arab rights in the region.

PLO'S QADDUMI ARRIVES 2 MAR, EXPLAINS VISIT

LD020028 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, accompanied by an important delegation arrived at Houari Boumediene International Airport at noon today. He is on a several days official visit at the invitation of Brother Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, who was at the airport along with senior Foreign Ministry officials and Abu Hassan, PLO representative in Algiers.

At the airport VIP lounge, the head of the PLO Political Department made a statement to national and international newsmen, in which he explained the purpose of his visit.

[Begin recording] [Qaddumi] Although our visit to fraternal Algeria is an official one, in fact, it is a visit by a brother to a brother. It is a visit for the sake of strengthening and developing fraternal relations between Palestine and Algeria and between the Palestinian revolution and the Algerian revolution.

[Question] The Arab nation is now passing through a difficult stage, manifested in violations by the Zionist enemy, particularly in southern Lebanon. Political observers expect that after withdrawing from the Sinai in April, Israel will commit a new aggression against Southern Lebanon. What precautions has the PLO taken to repel aggression?

[Answer] In fact, the Zionist aggression continues in the Middle East and particularly against the Palestinian people. As you know, our people have been waging a long struggle for scores of years against this Zionist invasion and against the Israeli occupation of our territory. The possibilities of repeated aggression exist every moment. This is because our people are struggling inside and outside the occupied soil against the forces of imperialism and Zionism to recover their national rights. At the same time, we also feel Israel, as an occupying Zionist state, is trying to transgress against the Lebanese people and to annex more Arab territory. After annexing the Golan, its ambitions will not stop at anything. It wants to annex more Arab territory, particula 'y in Lebanon. But the Palestinian and Lebanese people stand together in front of all possibilities of aggression and are prepared to confront these possibities. It will not be an easy battle and it will not be a short-lived battle because in this battle, the Zionist enemy will face all the capabilities of the Lebanese and Palestinian people who will achieve victory.

[Question] Mr Qaddumi, do you expect after the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai a change in the policy of the Egyptian regime toward the Arab countries?

[Answer] It must be pointed out quite clearly that the elimination of As-Sadat was a decisive element in the return of the Egyptian people to the Arab arena, to their rejoining the Arab-Israeli conflict, after As-Sadat wanted to make them neutral. There is no doubt that the Egyptian people and Army, who removed the stain of shame from Egypt and the Arab nation as a result of the Camp David agreements signed by As-Sadat, will march on the right path even if it is a long one. We have always known the Egyptian people as people who safeguard their national heritage and their revolutionary march and who will be with their Arab brothers in the battlefield to recover pan-Arab rights and to recover usurped Arab and Palestinian territory.

Many people attach great importance to 25 April, while we attach no importance to this date. We attach great importance to the uprising of the Egyptian people. The uprising of their gallant army, which removed the disgrace by liquidating As-Sadat, has no time limit. The Egyptian people are marching forward after this uprising and after the elimination of As-Sadat. There is no time limit on their uprising and there are no restrictions at all on their national and pan-Arab march and on their return to the Arab fold. We can see the glad tidings of hope emerging on the Arab horizon because the Egyptian people are shouldering their responsibility honestly and sincerely for the sake of their national issues and, foremost, the Palestinian issue.

The situation in the occupied homeland, as you have been hearing and as reported in the press, clearly points out that our people, who aborted the Camp David agreements -- the parts which concern the autonomy -- are still struggling for the liquidation of every trace of these agreements. We know that our people's continuous revolutionary uprisings will be the basic and only way to attain their national rights and to destroy the Zionist occupation and remove all its traces. There is no doubt that our people, who are enduring hell every day, will not think much of these difficulties but they will make sacrifices quite honestly and sincerely. They have a deep conviction that the armed struggle and the popular uprising are the ways to end the occupation, to establish a Palestinian state and to return to the Palestinians their lands and their right to self-determination.

[Question] Abu al-Lutf [Qaddumi], what is your comment on the coming visit of French President Francois Mitterrand to occupied Palestine?

[Answer] We have repeatedly said that we do not want the French president to visit. There is no doubt that De Gaulle, who had built the first relations with the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolution, was right when he said: We know the Palestinian people and the Arab nation, regardless of how many defeats, in the long run are capable of scoring a victory over aggression. Therefore, if we said we oppose such a visit, we hope that France, who is regarded as a friend after these numerous stands toward the Palestinine issue and the other Arab issues, will consider that Arab-French relations cannot develop and prosper as long as France thinks it can establish equal relations between France and Israel and France and the Arab countries. France's vital interests in Arab countries are so many that they cannot be counted. France should examine these vital interests. We say with open hearts and with minds full of optimism that France must take into account that to combine two friends, Israel and the Arabs, is not something the Arabs can easily accept. If France wants to preserve the French-Arab friendship, it must respect Arab feelings and must understand that the basic enemy of the Arab nation is Israel, with its occupation and aggression and its policy of expansion and colonialization. France must declare its stand against this aggressive policy and declare its positive stand toward establishing an independent Palestinian state in Palestine and uphold the right of the Palestinian people to return to their lands. France must take the initiative and invite the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee to visit France if it really wishes to develop Arab-French relations. [end recording]

The Palestinian delegation includes besides Abu al-Lutf, head of the PLO Political Department, the PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, the official in charge of education affairs, Talal Naji, the official in charge of social affairs, Abu Mahir al-Yamani, and the official in charge of external relations in the Fatah Abu Hatim.

APS Report

LD021256 Algiers APS in English 1036 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Algiers, 2 Mar (APS) -- The head of Palestinian diplomacy Faruk Qaddumi today starts an official visit at the invitation of Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia.

The current visit bears particular importance considering the critical phase of the Arab situation and the Palestinian revolution. The Palestinian struggle, which registers diplomatic, military and political triumphs, today faces the risk of being liquidated, both materially and politically.

It appears evident now that Israel is on the verge of a huge military operation directed to the very existence of the resistance in south Lebanon, beside its so-called autonomy plan that the Camp David signatories still try to impose.

It is logical in this context that the Palestinian revolution concerts with its natural allies since Algeria has always considered the Palestinian problem its central concern.

Algeria after ending a tragic war declared that the Palestinian problem is not only a fundamental problem but a national cause for the Algerian people and government.

Algerian leaders have always reaffirmed that the Palestinian problem is the fundamental criteria that determines its relations with other countries. This position has not changed at all and as the late President Boumediene said: "If we have to choose between the Palestinian people and all the others, we will opt for the Palestinian people."

PAPER ON MOROCCAN RESPONSE TO SAHARA OAU SEAT

PM021633 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 24 Feb 82 pp 1, 14

[M. Saidani article: "The OAU Was in Step With History"]

[Text] Morocco is vituperating. It is making accusations against Edem Kodjo, haranguing its "allies," threatening the OAU with "collapse," invoking -- curiously and very late in the day -- the national decisions and seeking U.S. military aid. There is reason to wonder whether the invectives launched against Kodjo are not, in fact, aimed at the continental organization which King Hassan II did not hesitate to describe as the "Tam Tam [as published] conference" in the recent past. What and who is behind the maneuvers being made in Addis Ababa to scuttle this 38th session? Hasn't the Moroccan regime hitherto completely ignored any decision of the implementation committee which did not tend to back its expansionism? Hasn't it given sufficient illustration of its obstinacy in pursuing its war of aggression in the West Sahara and, to that end, requested -- while at the third Nairobi summit the OAU committee was working to draft the practical provisions with a view to holding a self-determination referendum and organizing a cease-fire in the West Sahara in the framework of a just and lasting political solution to the problem -- the intervention of the United States, one of the world's biggest powers, from which it hopes to obtain more arms supplies for its "desert war" in exchange for granting U.S. military bases?

All the facts show that Rabat is far from having the desire for peace for which the OAU has constantly called. Hence, the Moroccan regime's approach is still one of challenge and its "protests" on the occasion of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic's [SDAR] official admission into the OAU are more the result of the diktat it intends to impose on the continental organization than any concern regarding the possible implementation of the decisions of the third Nairobi summit.

Rabat knows it is fighting a rearguard battle in Addis Ababa, especially since it is perfectly well acquainted with the OAU Charter, especially regarding the admission procedure. For all these reasons, therefore, Morocco has once again resorted to the disdain amply reflected by the "empty-chair policy," that fact is not surprising. Questions arise, however, since the representatives of some states -- a small number moreover -- followed the Moroccan delegation. How can that behavior be explained?

Despite the present maneuvers, the SDAR is now the OAU's 51st member state. Its admission, in keeping with the organization's charter, since an absolute majority of members were in favor, is automatic. All that was needed, therefore, was a simple administrative action for that admission to be officially confirmed. That was carried out as usual by OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo, whose job is to ensure that principles, which are indeed unanimously accepted, are respected and that the documents governing the continental organization are implemented. Justice has been done to a people who are fighting for their independence and national sovereignty. Consequently, it is natural for that independence to be recognized by the African community.

In joining the OAU, all member states pledged to respect the organization's charter and rules. The few open defections from this 38th ministerial session are, therefore, surprising. The motives, if there are any, may be found at three levels: refusal to take a stance, some apprehension at the "precedent" (What precedent?) or finally, refusal to support a process which should encourage the establishment of peace.

The advocates of the OAU's collapse, circles hostile to any strengthening of African solidarity and African independence, are busy trying to exert pressure. It is known that there is growing pressure on some governments to instruct their delegations to withdraw from this session's work.

Whatever happens, Addis Ababa is in step with history. The OAU is shouldering its responsibilities. It cannot bow to any form of blackmail or threat. Botswana Foreign Minister Archibald Mogwe responded in simple but very significant terms to the maneuvers being made by stating yesterday: "We welcome the SDAR delegation on its accession to the status of a member of the organization." Many delegations also stressed that the Saharan people's natural right to be present in the African family has been recognized."

PDRY PRESIDENT MAKES STATEMENT, LEAVES FOR HOME

LD021310 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpts] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, PDRY president secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, prime minister and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, left Algiers this morning. The PDRY president was seen off at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Chadli Bendjedid, president and party secretary general; brother members of the Political Bureau: Rabih Bitat, speaker of the National People's Assembly, Prime Minister Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani; Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, official responsible for the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, Interior Minister Al-Haj Yala, Justice Minister Boualem Baki; members of the government; secretary general of the presidency; commander of the 7th Military Region; the ambassadors to Algiers and Aden; and members of the diplomatic corpos.

Before boarding his aircraft, the PDRY president, accompanied by President Chadli Bendjedid, heard the national anthems of both countries and reviewed a detachment of the republican guard.

Before that, President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made a statement to the press at the VIP lounge. He expressed his profound satisfaction with the results of his official visit to Algeria which gave him an opportunity, as he said, to have fraternal talks with President Chadli Bendjedid and a number of officials. Regarding his meeting with President Chadli Bendjedid, the PDRY president said: Our meetings and talks were successful and fruitful and expressed the depth of the fraternal relations between our two fraternal countries within the framework of the Confrontaton and Steadfastness Front. Our views and opinions were identical with regard to current Arab issues and developments and with regard to our countries' attitudes toward these issues. Our visit also achieved good results with regard to the development of bilateral relations in a manner that serves the interests of our two fraternal peoples. In conclusion, the PDRY president said: As we are about to leave fraternal Algeria, which is the symbol of Arab sacrifice for freedom and independence, we would like to express our thanks and appreciation to his Excellency Brother President Chadli Bendjedid and the Algerian officials and people for the warm welcome and hospitality we enjoyed. We will return home carrying with us feelings of brotherhood and love toward this struggling people and would like to reaffirm that we will remain with Algeria in one trench in our common struggle against imperialism and Zionism and their tools in the region. We would like to reaffirm that our visit to Algeria has contributed to the consolidation of the Arab liberation struggle against imperialism and Zionism and has consolidated our two countries' roles in the liberation struggle waged by our Arab peoples.

ETHIOPIA

MINISTRY TELLS FRENCH EMBASSY TO REDUCE STAFF

EA021854 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of socialist Ethiopia today announced that the French Embassy in Addis Ababa has been told to reduce its staff members by half. The Foreign Ministry noted that the embassy was told to reduce its staff members by half from today, adding that the departing staff members should leave Ethiopia within 48 hours. This was the decision made.

LEADERS CRITICIZE FRENCH SOCIALIST POLICY

COPWE Spokesman

EA021858 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Ethiopia today expressed surprise and indignation at the haughty arrogance and colonial mentality of the French Socialist Party which in a recent dispatch is reported to have condemned the so-called large-scale offensive in Eritrea region.

A spokesman of COPWE [Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia] said that neither the self-designated Socialist Party nor its leadership has any right whatsoever to concern itself with the internal affairs of revolutionary Ethiopia.

The COPWE spokesman declared that socialist Ethiopia rejects and vehemently condemns this unwarranted and blatant interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state. He said that the action of the French Socialist Party is bound to have serious repercussions on Franco-Ethiopian relations for which the Government of France will be held entirely responsible.

Fikre-Selassie

EA021636 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0652 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Speech by Fidre-Selassie Wodgeress, secretary general of the Provisional Military Administrative Commission, at celebrations for 86th anniversary of battle of Adwa in Menelik Square, Addis Ababa -- live]

[Excerpt] It is well known to the whole world that in an attempt to come out of the repeated economic crisis from which it has suffered, France has become the merchant of death in intensifying its arms trade and exploiting situations created as the result of conflicts between countries. France is now establishing military bases and expanding and strengthening existing ones in its colonies and countries under its neocolonial domination on the continent, thereby meddling in the internal affairs of many countries. This imperialist policy of France has become an increasing threat to world peace.

When the French Socialist Party came to power, socialist Ethiopia, believing France would respect the freedom and equality of mankind, as well as the sovereignty and territorial integrity of other countries, indicated its wish to strengthen relations in many directions. However, instead of reciprocating this gesture of Ethiopian good will, the ruling French Socialist Party, in a bid to revive the old colonial desire and to reverse the course of history, has started hatching conspiracies against socialist Ethiopia.

In a clear interference in our internal affairs, the French Socialist Party is supporting the bandits that have been reviled by the broad Ethiopian masses. It particularly indicated its enmity toward our revolutionary and territorial integrity by assisting the Eritrean secessionist bandits in an open violation of our red star multipurpose revolutionary campaign. Socialist Ethiopia strongly denounces this colonial policy being pursued by France.

In its policy of pursuing the struggle for peace, equality and socialism and strengthening ties with the peoples of the world, socialist Ethiopia wants to have good relations with the French people. However, if the French Socialist Party pursues its conspiracies against our revolution, we would like to use this occasion to stress strongly that the French Socialist Party will be responsible for the misunderstandings and straining of relations between the peoples of Ethiopia and France.

SOMALIA

EMERGENCY RULE LIFTED, PARTY, CABINET RESHUFFLED

EA012130 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] At an extraordinary meeting of the Central Committee of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] this afternoon, it was decided to lift the emergency rule imposed on the country under directive NP, 1 of the president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, on 21 October 1980.

Also starting from [words indistinct] members of the Supreme Revolutionary Council will return to their normal duties.

The president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, has proposed a reshuffle of the party hierarchy and the following have been named:

Challe Brig Gen Ismail Ali Abokar, third vice president of the SDR, becomes assistant to the secretary general of the SRSP;
Brig Gen Mohamed Shaykh Osman becomes chairman of the Bureau of Justice of the SRSP;
Brig Gen Mohamed Ali Shire becomes chairman of the Finance Bureau;
Col Abd al-Rizak Mahmud Abubakar becomes chairman of the Training Bureau;
Col Abd al-Qadir Haji Mohamed becomes chairman of the Bureau of Organization and Mobilization;
Col Osman Mohamed Jelle becomes chairman of the Bureau of Scientific Research;
Ahmed Ashkir Botan becomes chairman of the Bureau of Ideology;
Adan Mohamed Ali becomes chairman of the Bureau for Foreign Affairs.

The proposal of President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre to appoint these members was fully supported by the Central Committee of the SRSP.

A reshuffle of the government also was approved and the following were named:

Col Gen Mohamed Ali Samantar, first vice president of the SDR, also becomes minister of defense;
Challe Maj Gen Hussein Kulmie Afrah, second vice president, becomes assistant to the president for administration affairs;
Challe Maj Gen Brig Gen Ahmed Suleiman Abdulle becomes minister of planning;
Challe Col Ahmed Mahmud Farah becomes minister of mineral resources and water development;
Challe Col Abdi Warsame Isaw becomes minister of labor and social affairs;
Challe Col Mohamed Umar Jess becomes minister of information and national guidance;
Col Ahmed Hasan Musa becomes minister of public works;
Col Musa Rabille Got becomes minister of the presidency;
Challe Maj Gen Yusuf Ahmed (Kalhan) becomes minister of tourism;
Challe Brig Gen Bileh Rafle Guled becomes minister of agriculture;

Challe Osman Jama Ali becomes minister of fisheries;
Challe Abdurahman Abdullah Soman becomes minister of education;
Challe Abdurahman Jama Barre becomes minister of foreign affairs;
Challe Abdullahi Osoble Siad becomes minister of posts and telecommunications;
Challe Maj Gen Jama Mohamed Ghalid becomes minister of civil aviation and transport;
Challe Ahmed Shire Mahmud becomes minister of justice and religious affairs;
Challe Abd al-Qasim Salid becomes minister of culture and higher education;
Challe Mohamed Ali Nur becomes minister of livestock, forestry and range;
Challe Abdi Salan Shaykh Hussein becomes minister of ports and sea transport;
Challe Mohamed Umar Jama becomes minister of commerce;
Challe Ahmed Jama Abdulle Jangeli becomes minister of local government and rural development;
Challe Col Mire Aware Jama becomes minister of sports and youth;
Challe Ahmed (Habib) becomes minister of [word indistinct] development; [passage indistinct]

Presidential Remarks

EA022134 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and president of the Somali Democratic Republic, was present at the swearing in ceremony of the newly appointed government ministers who held their first meeting this morning.

Challe Siad, who spoke at the end of the ceremony, called on them to carry out the duties to which they were appointed in accordance with the nation's policies and in the spirit of cooperation. You must carry out your responsibilities in the most appropriate manner compatible with national interests, while at the same time taking into consideration unity and freedom, Challe Siad said. The president urged the officials to have a national outlook based on principle and independence and to discharge their responsibilities in a fearless and direct manner. It is essential to have cooperation among government institutions to bring about the realization of Somali national aims, Challe Siad added.

The president impressed upon the officials the need to institute strict discipline among workers. The president warned the officials against uncontrolled expenditure, adding that all expenditure must be aimed at serving the national interest. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the officials carry out their responsibilities conscientiously.

UGANDA

BOMB EXPLOSION IN KAMPALA CAUSES SLIGHT DAMAGE

EA021938 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] The minister of internal affairs, Dr Luwuliza-Kirunda, has announced that early this morning an explosive device was detonated in the Kampala industrial area. The force of the blast damaged part of the (Bugolobi) central coffee processing plant. The damage was slight and the plant has continued to function. Several people are helping the police in investigations into the incident.

CHAD

LOSSES HEAVY IN DECISIVE BATTLE FOR OUM HADJER

AB011350 Paris AFP in French 1253 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Ndjamena, 1 Mar (AFP) -- The battle for Oum Hadjer in eastern Chad, which has been going on for 10 days now between government forces and Hissein Habre's FAN, constitutes a "decisive stage" for the two belligerents in the Chadian conflict, military and diplomatic sources in Ndjamena say.

The winner of this battle, which is the first real confrontation between President Goukouni Oueddei's forces and the FAN since the fighting in Ndjamena in December 1980, will be able to impose his "solution" to the Chadian problem, the same sources added.

A military source in Ndjamena indicated that on Monday, a day after the expiration of the OAU's date for a cease-fire, President Goukouni Oueddei is continuing to send reinforcements to that town and that the FAN has, over the past 48 hours, concentrated there the bulk of its troops formerly stationed at Abeche further east. Oum Hadjer, which was recaptured a week ago by the government forces, was again retaken by the FAN on Thursday. Military sources in the capital stated that "the losses in men are considerable on both sides." If the stake of the battle for Oum Hadjer is mainly military for the government forces, it is essentially diplomatic for the FAN. In fact, for Hissein Habre, it is necessary not to "cede any territory" so that the OAU -- which has officially recognized it as a full interlocutor -- may increase its pressure on the Chadian Government to ensure the start of negotiations for a "national reconciliation."

The official OAU representative in Ndjamena, Egzyaber Dawitt, on Monday admitted that the "cease-fire is not being respected but that it still constitutes the first condition for the negotiation which the pan-African organization has scheduled to start on 15 March."

For Goukouni Oueddei's government, on the other hand, it is necessary to assert itself militarily not only to avoid being compelled to negotiate with Hissein Habre but also to demonstrate that the presence of the OAU forces in Chad is not a determining factor for its maintenance in power. Military experts are of the opinion that the presence in Chad of 6,000 Nigerian, Senegalese and Zairian troops for the past 3 months -- these troops are mainly deployed between Ati and Mongo about 400 km from Ndjamena -- constitutes the "only rampart" against the advance of the FAN toward the Chadian capital. The government forces' counterattack in the east for the past 10 days coincides with one of the resolutions of the OAU's permanent committee on Chad which, on 10 and 11 February in Nairobi, fixed 30 June as the date on which the mandate of the inter-African forces in Chad must end.

Dawitt said that since the demand for the application of the cease-fire on 28 February has "failed," the OAU will be compelled to take "new measures" to ensure respect for the Nairobi resolutions. These resolutions, which were adopted by 18 African countries and which called for the beginning of negotiations on 15 March and the organization of free elections in Chad next June, have been declared "null and void" by the Ndjamena government.

VICE PRESIDENT DEPLORES TROOP 'DISORGANIZATION'

AB021417 Paris AFP in French 1318 GMT 2 Mar 82

[By AFP special envoy Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] Ndjamena, 2 Mar (AFP) -- The vice president of the Chadian Government, Col Abdel Kader Kamougue, on Tuesday reaffirmed in Ndjamena the government's "determination to militarily settle the Chadian problem but deplored at the same time the "disorganization" of the government troops.

In an interview with AFP, Colonel Kamougue, leader of the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT), declared that this "disorganization" was responsible for last Thursday's loss of Oum Hadjer to the benefit of Hissein Habre's troops 4 days after the town was captured by government forces.

"The euphoria of victory made our men forget the need to organize the defense," he added after specifying that all Chadian political and military factions helped to capture Oum Hadjer.

Colonel Kamougue also affirmed that, at first, the soldiers of Hissein Habre's FAN give the impression that they had withdrawn toward Abeche to the east of Oum Hadjer, whereas, in fact, they had surrounded the town from the south, in the direction of Ndjamena and taken the government forces from the rear.

"Our men thought the soldiers were reinforcements arriving from Ndjamena through Ati and were forced to abandon Oum Hadjer because they were hard pressed," he deplored. Colonel Kamougue refused to give the number of victims for the government forces. He admitted, however, that the FAT suffered the heaviest losses and did not rule out the possibility that during the battle for Oum Hadjer, some of the soldiers were hit by bullets from their fellow soldiers "because of this disorganization." The vice president, who explained that the regular troops have "at least three times more men" than the FAN, stated that "the resumption of military initiative by the government still depends solely on its determination to win and on the military training of the forces at its disposal."

Colonel Kamougue also affirmed that there are within his forces "several soldiers who are only guerrillas and who have never received military training." "Some of them," he added, "do not understand the orders given them."

He then expressed the conviction that to win the war against Hissein Habre, it is necessary not only to "avoid minimizing the forces" of the opponent but also to give the command of the government troops to "a small number of officers already prepared for this kind of mission."

Finally, Colonel Kamougue rejected the suggestion that the presence of the OAU forces at Ati and Mongo has so far hindered Hissein Habre from "capturing" the capital.

NIGERIA SENDS THIRD BATTALION TO NDJAMENA

AB021315 Paris AFP in French 1223 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Yaounde, 2 Mar (AFP) -- According to reliable sources in Yaounde, Nigeria has just established a third battalion comprising about 700 men in Chad and could, according to observers, greatly influence the development of the political situation in that country. The whole of this Nigerian Army unit has been established in Ndjamena. It has been deployed within the framework of the OAU neutral force in Chad.

The new unit dispatched by Lagos brings to about 3,000 the number of Nigerian soldiers in Chad, whereas the other contingents of the OAU force made up of one Zairian and one Senegalese battalion do not exceed 2,500 men.

Observers also note that Nigeria is occupying the key positions of defending particularly Ndjamena and its main access routes. Apart from being established in the Chadian capital, for some days now the Nigerian troops have been forming a veritable security belt around the city in a radius not exceeding 300 km.

From the west to the east, they are stationed in Bol, Mokou, Mao, Moussouro in Kanen Province and Ati in conjunction with the Zairians on the Ndjamena-Abeche axis. It is recalled that the Senegalese are stationed at Mongo in the south of Ati.

Observers note that the strengthening of the Nigerian Army in Chad is taking place shortly after the OAU permanent committee in charge of the Chadian question met in Nairobi last February and set 30 June as the date on which the mandate of the African peacekeeping force in that country will end. According to the observers, it is not impossible in these conditions that Nigeria -- a neighboring country with great material and human resources -- intends to defend President Goukouni Oueddei's regime beyond the 30 June deadline and outside the OAU framework.

Nigeria could thus be one of the "friends" which President Goukouni Oueddei promised to call upon the day after the Nairobi conference whose recommendations he had just rejected: These friends would help him to crush the rebellion of Hissein Habre's FAN and consolidate his power.

This feeling expressed by many observers is supported by the fact that during a press conference more than 2 months ago, Nigerian General Ejiga, who is commanding the OAU forces in Chad, promised to "crush" the FAN if it tried to cross the "defense rampart" formed by the neutral force in order to attack Ndjamena. This statement later was moderated by the OAU but Nigeria may endorse it if the pan-African organization officially deserts Chad.

Thus, even if the government troops are defeated by the FAN at Oum Hadjer in the east where they have been engaged in a terrible battle for about 10 days now, Goukouni Oueddei would apparently still have other means to maintain himself at the head of the Chadian state. Observers argue that this is because the control of power in Chad -- however fragile it may be -- necessarily depends on the control of Ndjamena.

FOREIGN MINISTER ACYL COMMENTS ON ELECTIONS

AB011438 Paris AFP in French 1359 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, 1 Mar (AFP) -- The Chadian Government must first defeat the rebellion before being able to hold elections, Chadian Foreign Minister Acyl Ahmat stated at the end of the OAU ministerial conference in Addis Ababa.

"Yet one can only hold elections when there is peace," he added, "everything must be done to drive back the rebellion to make it possible for the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] to hold free and democratic elections."

"A constitutional commission is now drawing up a constitution. But these problems cannot be solved in 2 or 3 months," the minister explained.

"The GUNT issued an ordinance granting amnesty to all opposition members, excluding Hissein Habre and his two closest aides" in the FAN, underscored Acyl who stressed that "the Chadian Government will never sit around a conference table with Habre."

The OAU standing committee on Chad mandated that a cease-fire should go into effect in Chad on Sunday, 28 February 1982, while elections should be held before 30 June. But Ndjamena rejected these decisions, describing them as "dictate" and contesting the legality of that committee.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

MESSAGE TO OAU'S KODJO PROTESTS POLISARIO SEATING

AB251410 Malabo Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] His excellency the state commissioner for foreign affairs has sent the following message to His Excellency Edem Kodjo, secretary general of the OAU in Addis Ababa:

Mr Secretary General, the government has learned with great (?concern) the admission of the Polisario Front to the deliberations of the OAU council of ministers. In view of this action, which the Republic of Equatorial Guinea considers a flagrant violation of our organization's charter and which was taken completely outside the framework of the recent decisions of the Nairobi summit, the government of the Supreme Military Council strongly protests against such illegalities and against the violation of the OAU Charter, for acceptance of this action will constitute an unfortunate precedent in the history of our organization which will find it impossible to adhere to its objectives and principles. The government of the Supreme Military Council reaffirms its stand on the problem of the Western Sahara and wishes to call your excellency's attention to the fact that the delegation of the Government of Equatorial Guinea will not be able to take part in the current session of the ministerial conference next to the Polisario Front. Your excellency is requested to inform all the member states of our organization of the stand of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea.

High consideration, Marcos Mba Ondo, commissioner of state, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

GHANA

ASAMOAH CALLS IMF CREDIT CONDITIONS UNACCEPTABLE

AB261451 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, has said in Addis Ababa that the present administration in Ghana considers it unacceptable conditions set forth by the IMF before credit facilities are granted. Speaking at a news conference, Dr Asamoah explained that the IMF recommended the devaluation of the cedi, a condition absolutely unacceptable in the present situation.

Regarding the plans of the new government, he said no one thinks of returning to the mutiparty system which ruled the country before the revolution. People's defense committees being formed in the community and work places have a task to supervise the authorities. These committees, Dr Asamoah said, constitute the means through which power would be transfered to the people. Through the people's committees, all the decisions taken would be discussed by the people before their implementation.

On foreign policy, Dr Asamoah said Ghana will continue to be a nonaligned country and is working hard to recover her own place in the vanguard of the struggle against colonialism, racism and for a new world economic order.

Describes OAU Meeting

AB010730 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Ghana's delegation to the regular session of the OAU council of ministers meeting in Addis Ababa returned home last night. The session, which dealt with financial matters, approved the budget of the organization for the ensuing year.

In an interview with the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation at the airport, the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, who led the delegation, said the ministers adopted a budget of a little over $21 million for the next financial year beginning from 1 July. Out of this, Ghana has to pay 2.75 percent based on a new scale of assessment adopted at the last OAU summit in Nairobi, Kenya.

On the political issues discussed, Dr Asamoah first mentioned the controversy regarding the admission of the SDAR. Some countries led by Morocco walked out of the meeting after the SDAR delegation had been allowed to take its seat. Dr Asamoah said the OAU secretary general had invited the SDAR to attend the conference since the required number of OAU member countries, according to Article 28 of the OAU Charter, had recognized the Polisario Front, which proclaimed the SDAR. He said as far as Ghana was concerned, there was no problem because Ghana has always recognized the Polisario Front.

The next issue was the mercenary invasion of the Seychelles. The African belief was that South Africa was behind the invasion. Dr Asamoah said the meeting condemned the racist South Africans and said all Africa will support the Seychelles in condemning the South Africans when the issue comes before the UN Security Council later this year.

On the question of the next Commonwealth games to be held in Australia, Dr Asamoah said the meeting held to the African members' intention to boycott the games if New Zealand is allowed to participate. This was in protest against the New Zealand Government's sanction of the tour of that country by the South African rugby team, the Springbok. The tour, he explained, was in violation of the OAU provision that no member country should have sporting links with South Africa because of its racist policies. The meeting was of the opinion that New Zealand's permission of the tour gives passport to the South African regime; therefore if New Zealand persists in attending the Commonwealth games, the African countries will not attend.

A number of resolutions were passed by the ministerial council, one condemned the United States, Britain and Israel for cooperating and encouraging South Africa to carry out on with its inhuman policies.

COMMENTARY VIEWS RELATIONSHIP WITH LIBYA

AB011626 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Maxwell Wula commentary]

[Text] An announcement by the secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Ghana that his country has no intentions, whatsoever, in Ghana except the liberation of the Ghanaians to control their destiny and wealth may not be acceptable to the Western powers who have been at pains to portray the revolution in Ghana as a Libyan-backed revolution. This assumption, to Ghanaians, is most unfortunate for it creates the impression that Ghanaians cannot decide for themselves what they think is good for them. But as has been reiterated time and again by Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, the events of 31 December was an attempt to enable the people of this country to become a real part of the decisionmaking process of government.

It is important, therefore, to understand that the action was not a military coup in the sense of another adventurism by a group of soldiers having the backing from an outside force to come to power for their own selfish ends. It is rather to create, by this action, an opening for a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

In an attempt to arrive at this goal, the government invites with open arms genuine friendly relations with all countries which have the interest of this country at heart. It is from this angle that our critics must take another look at our relationship with Libya in the current revolution. The Libyans, who are also undergoing a revolution of their own, have therefore identified our sufferings to their own problems at the initial stages.

So far, Libya has generously made three separate donations in food, drugs and so on to the government. This aside, 500 million [as heard] barrels of crude oil will arrive any time this week as a free gift from the Libyan Government. In addition, the Ghanaian secretary of fuel and power and the Libyan oil secretary are negotiating supply of Libyan oil to Ghana for the next 15 years. These, indeed, are real signs of friendly cooperation which will go a long way to cement relations between both countries.

But this is not all, following the recent 21-man Ghanaian delegation visit to Libya, various cooperation agreements have been signed. These include agreements in culture and information, the setting up of joint Libyan-Ghanian companies in various fields, the establishment of a joint Libyan-Ghanian bank and the establishment of a direct air link between Libya and Ghana. Admittedly, these actions by Libya and Ghana are bound to bring unfriendly comments from the Western powers. But the conditions under which we have lived for the past years are really sickening. We have had theories propounded by these same Western powers whose assessments of our plight were prejudiced. Through the Western channels, we have seen ourselves painted in all colors we never deserved. Things are now changing fast for the better and we cannot look back while our hand is on the hoe.

Ghanians have wholeheartedly accepted the challenge of our times and we are determined more than ever to cooperate with those who are willing to help us. What nice words have we never heard from some Western powers who later spurned our cooperation and gave us a stab at the back in order to exploit our economy. We know that the Western countries are watching critically our new democratic process as if their definition is binding on all countries. Their imported democratic principles have always been misleading so far as we are concerned. If they are really committed to our plight and our struggle to free ourselves, then they must show it in concrete terms of assistance and leave our relations with Libya [illegible] posterity to judge. If they cannot do this, then they must leave us alone to our plight.

PNDC REPRESENTATIVE EXPLAINS NATIONAL GOALS

AB011920 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] A representative of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Lieutenant Colonel (Klutseh), has observed that unlike governments of political parties, the council is not burdened with sectional or regional affiliations. Its efforts will therefore be directed toward the attainment of national goals. Speaking at the annual (jahuwu) festival of chiefs and people of the Adjakoe traditional area at Gabana, Colonel (Klutseh) who deputized for the chairman of the PNDC, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, said the council would provide social amentities and other human requirements wherever they are needed. He said, being the government of the people, the PNDC reflects an expression of the people's needs, hopes and aspirations. And as truly national government, it can be called the people's national defense committee because it has come to fend the country against all forms of corruption, maladministration and incompetence. Colonel (Klutseh) said the government of the PNDC is fully aware that the enjoyment of freedom and true democracy is crucially dependent on such other factors as good drinking water, hospitals, clinic, food and good roads. The council would therefore make every effort within the constraints of resources available to improve the living conditions of all to make life bearable and more meaningful.

ATIM ENCOURAGES ORGANIZED YOUTH MOVEMENT

AB261352 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] A member of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] Chris Atim, has observed that the country's older generation has failed the country and the youth will have to rebuild the country without them unless they eschew the lethargy in which they now find themselves. To this end, Mr Atim charged the youth to work out plans which can be effectively implemented for the revolution to succeed. He was opening a 3-day youth seminar on "Effective Youth Mobilization: An Urgent Need for a National Youth Movement" at Legon today.

The PNDC member noted that the development of every nation depends to a large extent on the strength of its youth and called for the organization of the country's youth under one unified umbrella to enable them to meet the task of national reconstruction. He said the present national youth council is inadequate; a youth movement should not be a mere coordinating center or a clearing house, but one which serves as an organizing center for effective youth participation in national affairs.

Mr Atim stressed the need for an organized and disciplined youth movement to work toward the eradication of ignorance, poverty and all forms of oppression in Ghana and Africa as a whole. He said Africa is looking up to Ghana and the country must not fail.

SOLDIERS TO BE DISARMED, RETURNED TO BARRACKS

AB021411 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] A member of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] Rev Dr Damuah, today assured Ghanaians that directives have been issued to disarm soldiers and send them back to barracks. Speaking during a meeting with the Christian Council of Ghana in Accra, he said the revolution is out to create awareness in Ghanaians to redirect their efforts. Rev Dr Damuah said the revolution is also against greed and pride that have plagued the Ghanaian society for so long. He appealed to Ghanaians to produce more to feed themselves rather than go abegging for food always.

GUINEA

SUSPENSION OF PARTICIPATION IN OAU ANNOUNCED

AB021722 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Communique issued in Conakry on 2 March following a joint session of the Central Committee and the government, announcing the suspension of Guinea's participation in the OAU read by Foreign Affairs Minister Abdoulaye Toure]

[Text] The Government of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, faithful to the OAU Charter and determined to defend the African moral against all disloyal maneuvers, with the aim that the interests of the African Continent might triumph,

-- Considering that following the 17th OAU summit in Freetown in 1980 the document related to the admission of the SDAR into the OAU and the document related to the interlocutory issue which was tabled by Morocco concerning this admission were dropped from the agenda -- this was after the intervention of the presidents of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

-- Considering that during the 18th session, which was held in Nairobi in 1981, the OAU summit did not alter its Freetown decision;

-- Considering that the implementation committee, which the OAU set up to examine the Western Sahara conflict, has already made pertinent decisions on modalities for a cease-fire and the holding of a self-determination referendum which will enable the Saharan people to express themselves democratically;

The Government of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea declares that:

1. The fundamental problem of the Western Sahara can only be resolved by Saharans through the holding of a referendum. All other issues -- including the recognition of the SDAR -- being false problems brought forth untimely, irregularly and illegally by some states which want to flout African dignity;

2. The 16th summit was informed of the Polisario's application to be recognized officially as a liberation movement by the OAU and this was rejected;

3. An unrecognized movement cannot set up a recognized government;

4. The OAU ministerial council cannot handle a dossier already examined and rejected by the conference of heads of state and government whose consistency is unquestionable and whose decisions are completely binding on the ministerial council itself;

5. The decision to admit the SDAR as a member state in the OAU is illegal and irregular both in its form and substance; it is a deliberate violation of the charter and moral of our organization;

6. All African governments anxious to preserve African unity must strongly denounce the violation of the OAU Charter by the 38th session of the ministerial council held in February 1982 in Addis Ababa;

7. In view of the opposition of 19 member states -- which is more than one third of the organization -- that recent ministerial council loses all its validity and its decision can only be binding on those who have assumed the heavy responsibility to destroy the OAU and throw discredit on our continent;

8. The current chairman of the OAU has the imperious duty to declare null and void the irregular decision to admit the SDAR to the OAU;

9. Any disloyal maneuver toward the OAU must be strongly denounced along with its authors whose aim can only be the disruption of the OAU and the weakening of the continent in the face of imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism;

10. It is a duty for the states which have met the challenge to suspend their participation in the activities of the OAU until order is restored to ensure the respect for the principles of the organization, the safeguard of the dignity and international prestige of the African Continent.

The Government of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea extends its congratulatons to the 19 states which courageously stood up to defend the truth, justice and the honor of African people. It encourages them to maintain constant firmness to compel the enemies of African unity to respect the OAU, its leaders and its decision-making bodies.

In conclusion, on behalf of all the Guinean people, the Government of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea suspends its participation in the OAU until clarifications required by the situation in Africa are made in the face of the misuse committed by some African states in Addis Ababa in February 1982.

Ready for the revolution!

IVORY COAST

REOPENING OF UNIVERSITY DECIDED FOR 4 MAR

AB021617 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] The university, which was closed following the incidents of 9 February, is to be reopened next Thursday. The suspension of the university bursaries is cancelled and the salaries of the university teachers are restored.

On the other hand, the dissolution of the union of university teachers and research workers is maintained. All university clubs are abolished. Henceforth, no political conference will be allowed on the university campus. CAMPUS-INFO [student newspaper] is suspended.

These are the main decisions made by the head of state during today's meeting at the presidential palace from 1000 to 1500. The details will be given at 1900.

Teachers Cancel Strike

AB030914 Paris AFP in French 0818 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Abidjan, 3 Mar (AFP) -- The National Union of Ivorian High School Teachers (SYNESCI) on Tuesday cancelled the order it issued for a strike on 4 March in support of the university teachers if the measures taken against the latter are not rescinded before 3 March. SYNESCI Secretary General Pierre Biagne announced this decision at the very time the national council was meeting to resolve the university crisis.

Biagne explained that the cancellation of the strike order was decided following recent negotiations between the union and Ivorian mayors and parliamentarians, during which the latter promised a solution would be found for the situation at the university. Pierre Biagne also disclosed that the Ivorian head of state, Houphouet-Boigny, recently received members of the union, to whom he gave the same assurance.

MALI

CHADIAN MINISTER BRIEFS TRAORE, GRANTS INTERVIEW

AB011751 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Head of state President Moussa Traore this morning received in audience Chadian Justice Minister Kassire Koumakoye. The Chadian envoy delivered a message from President Goukouni Oueddei to President Moussa Traore. Kassire Koumakoye conveyed to the head of state the sincere thanks of the president of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] and of the Chadian people for Mali's permanent support in Chad's efforts toward the settlement of its internal problem and the restoring of peace necessary for its territorial integrity and stability. The Chadian envoy briefed President Moussa Traore on the developments in Chad since the recent OAU minisummit in Nairobi and the rejection of the resolutions by the Chadian legal government, the GUNT. Present at the audience were the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, Alioune Blondin Beye, the justice minister and keeper of the seals, Boubacar Sidibe; and the presidential diplomatic adviser, Tigane Youssouf. After the audience, the Chadian justice minister was interviewed by Lamine Coulibaly.

[Begin recording] [Koumakoye] The message touches, of course, on the difficult situation through which the Chadian people and their government are going. In view of Mali's constant support for the Chadian people and government, President Goukouni found it necessary to hurriedly send me here so I can brief General Traore on the Chadian problem, particularly in connection with the resolution adopted by the last Nairobi minisumit of the so-called standing committee which the Chadian Government considers to be a fictitious and heretic institution. For us, that resolution is a betrayal of Africa and it has stirred up international indignation with regard to the settlement of the Chadian problem.

[Question] One of the resolutions adopted by the Nairobi minisummit which you have just described as a heresy is the cease-fire. It seems to me that you have not respected the cease-fire.

[Answer] We don't have to comply with the principle of the cease-fire called for by the resolution. We want to say this, and let it be understood once and for all: The African troops came to Chad in accordance with the resolutions adopted in June by the Nairobi summit. Their mission is to support the government's efforts to ensure the entire country's defense and security. The African troops are in Chad to counter any aggression, be it from inside or from outside. The African troops now consider themselves a neutral force. It is our duty to carry out that task of national defense. If the cease-fire should come into question at all, we are not bound to it. There is one thing the OAU can do. It should ask the rebels to lay down arms and return to their homes. That is all that we want. We are not concerned by the cease-fire as it is part of the resolutions we categorically and completely reject.

[Question] Mr Minister, what is your position on the settlement of the Chadian problem in general?

[Answer] We wanted to entrust ourselves to the OAU so it could find a judicious and equitable solution to the problem in the interest of the Chadian people. The OAU understood us. It thus called for the departure of the Libyan troops. We did it, for we trust that organization. But we are sorry to see that a few heads of state recently have abrogated to themselves the right to decide instead of that African organization. We affirm that we are not a trust territory; we are not a protectorate.

We are a sovereign and independent state and a founding member of the OAU. We have no lessons to receive from a few heads of state. We refuse this dictate and we promise to find a definitive military solution to the problem. We have the strong conviction that we will annihilate Habre once and for all so that the Chadian people can breath and address all their attention to the problems of underdevelopment.

[Question] But Mr Minister, we know that the mandate of the inter-African troops in Chad will soon come to an end. On the other hand, we know that our Chadian brotherly country has huge economic problems. I want to know if you actually have the necessary means for your policy or will you appeal to a country to help you as was the case with Libya's intervention, for instance?

[Answer] We have had to repeat on every occasion and to the OAU that Chad is an independent and sovereign state. Its government is sovereign. It may at all times appeal to any friendly state for help. We are juridically in the position to do so. But we do not mean a priori that the country to appeal to would be Libya.

[Question] In spite of the Lagos Accords?

[Answer] The Lagos Accords do not forbid the government from appealing to any state to save the Chadian people. They are the juridical framework for the functioning of the GUNT and the conditions under which the government must hold elections. The Lagos Accords have not created the Chadian state or its government. There cannot be a state without a government. If the Chadian state exists, this implies the existence of a government.

[Question] Apart from the rebellion that is obvious, does the notion of faction still exist in Chad?

[Answer] Juridically, no, institutionally, no. But psychologically, yes. Because it is difficult to erase from the minds of men who fought around their leaders for 15 years to forget the fact in 1 year. This is difficult. Practically, however, we have for more than 3 months been working toward the unity of the government and all faction leaders have rallied themselves around President Goukouni to make it possible for the Chadian people to put an end to their tragedy on the field. For us, factions no longer exist -- juridically and institutionally, for soldiers from all the factions have been integrated into the national armed forces and this is why the general offensive launched by the government will inevitably be a success. [end recording]

NIGER

DPRK DELEGATION ARRIVES IN NIAMEY 26 FEB

AB261316 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] A DPRK delegation led by His Excellency Deputy Foreign Minister Kim Chae-pong arrived today in our country for a friendly working visit. The North Korean deputy foreign minister and the delegation accompanying him were welcomed on arrival by Abdurahman Ammar, director of political and cultural affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

The North Korean delegation will be in our country until 1 March.

Kountche Reception

AB011318 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Head of State Col Seyni Kountche received DPRK Deputy Foreign Minister Kim Chae-pong in audience. Cooperation between Niger and the DPRK was the center of their discussions.

SENEGAL

PRESIDENT CALLS OAU MEETING DECISIONS NULL, VOID

AB022042 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpt] The ministerial council met this morning. In his report to the council, the president first talked about the meeting of the 38th ordinary session of the OAU ministerial conference and expressed his concern over the future of the OAU. To this end, the head of state indicated that the OAU should encourage solidarity among African states to enable our continent to take up the many challenges facing Africa.

In this regard, the president recalled the appropriateness of the position taken by Senegal which, along with 18 other OAU member states, refused to accept the act of force of the OAU General Secretariat. This is why the Senegalese Government considers null and void all decisions made at the 38th session of the ministerial council, particularly the admission to the session of a delegation from the so-called SDAR.

The head of state also expressed Senegal's hope that in the future the responsible officials of the organization will adopt more coherent procedures and attitudes in accordance with the principles and rules of the African organization.

PRC MILITARY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DAKAR 26 FEB

AB261133 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] A PRC military delegation arrived in Dakar this afternoon for a 5-day visit to Senegal. The six-member Chinese delegation, led by Liu Kai, assistant to the chief of staff of the General Staff Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, was met on arrival by Gen Idrissa Fall, chief of general staff of the army; His Excellency Zong Kewen; Chinese ambassador to Senegal; and several others.

The leader of the Chinese delegation, Liu Kai, expressed his conviction that this visit, which is in return for the visit made by China by General Fall in 1976, will help strengthen friendship and cooperation between the Chinese and Senegalese Armies. He recalled the joint struggle by China and Senegal against hegemony and colonialism. We have come to visit the Senegalese Army, Mr Liu said, adding that this visit will make it possible to note the progress made so far by the Senegalese people under the leadership of President Abdou Diouf.

During its stay, the Chinese delegation will hold talks with the chief of general staff of the army, its host. The Chinese delegation tomorrow will attend a conference on the organization of the Senegalese Armed Forces and will visit the Military Academy of Saint Louis. It will therefore be in the northern military zone and in the southern zone at Ziguinchor. Our Chinese guests also will visit the tapestry factory and the Thies Polytechnic school.

SOUTH AFRICA

TWO MINISTERS RESIGN OVER CONFIDENCE ISSUE

LD030106 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Two South African Cabinet ministers have resigned following their refusal last week to support a motion of confidence in the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha. They are the minister of state administration and statistics, Dr Andies Treurnicht, and the minister of education and training, Dr Ferdie Hartzenberg. The prime minister announced this afternoon that he had received their letters of resignation and that he would recommend to the state president that the resignations take effect from tomorrow. In the meantime, he would not appoint two new ministers at this stage and their portfolios would be taken over by other Cabinet members.

Dr Treurnicht and Dr Hartzenberg and 20 other members of the ruling National Party caucus voted against a motion of confidence in the prime minister last Wednesday. Until now, 4 of the 22 caucus members who voted against the motion, as well as one who abstained from voting, have declared their support for Mr Botha. The rest have been given until tomorrow's caucus meeting to state their unconditional support for the prime minister. According to political observers in South Africa the rightwing revolt against the prime minister has set the stage for a split in the ruling National Party of Mr Botha.

STAR SAYS BOTHA, SAVIMBI HELD SECRET TALKS

AB021803 Paris AFP in French 1645 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Johannesburg, 2 Mar (AFP) -- Jonas Savimbi, leader of the UNITA guerrilla movement fighting against President dos Santos' regime in Angola, held secret talks with South African Prime Minister Peiter Willem Botha last week, it is alleged by the STAR of Johannesburg.

The South African evening newspaper revealed on Tuesday that Savimbi also met at the Cape several members of the South African Cabinet among which are Mr 'Pik' Botha minister of foreign affairs, and Gen Magnus Malan, minister of defense. Discussions reportedly centered on the second phase of the Namibian independence settlement plan and the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, the daily stated.

A Pretoria government spokesman, however, refused to confirm these Tuesday meetings, stating that the timetable and program of the South African prime minister generally are not publicized.

ZAMBIA

EXCHANGE OF FIRE REPORTED ON ZAIRIAN BORDER

CA021342 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] The government has confirmed reports that an exchange of fire took place between Zambian security forces and Zairian soldiers on the border along Muflira-Ndola road. A Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman said Zairian troops violated the Zambian territory and mounted a road block between Ndola and Mulfulira on Sunday afternoon. The spokesman said the incident involved a passenger UBZ bus, which was blocked and later found abandoned on a dirt road. Seven Zambians were abducted into Zaire. During the same time, a contract haulage truck with 500 bags of mealie meal was also diverted in to Zaire. The spokesman said the Zambian Government views the incident with the gravest concern and he added that investigations are being made.

Meanwhile, reports reaching Ndola say that Zambian residents at Sakania border have fled their homes to Ndola and other neighboring towns. The Zambian authorities have, however, told the Zambian residents in the areas to be calm as the situation was under control. Yesterday the residents of Sakania crowded the Mufulira-Ndola highway trying to hitchhike to Ndola when the area was caught in the grip of the border conflict which resulted in a shootout. The closure of the Zairian side of the border effectively puts out of use the Pedicle road which links the Copperbelt Province with Zambia's Luapula Province across the Zairian enclave.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE ON ONE-PARTY STATE, NKOMO DISMISSAL

LD012356 London BBC Television Network in English 2110 GMT 1 Mar 82

[From the "Panorama" program: Richard Lindley interview with Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe in Salisbury; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Prime Minister, only just over a year ago, you were assuring a BBC reporter that there was no need for a one-party state because you were in charge and in complete control already. Now what happened to change your mind?

[Answer] No, we haven't changed our mind. We've never really said we would maintain a multiparty state in the country. We've had the philosophy for a one-party state for a very long time. It's an African philosophy, it's the philosophy also in the socialist countries. But we said we didn't have to hurry the question of a one-party state, which we still say, but we must talk about it, we must prepare the minds of the people.

[Question] But there does seem to be a change of emphasis, as you were so firmly stating that there was no need for that one-party state only a year ago.

[Answer] No need to have it then. There is still no need for it now in 1982 and there may be no need for it in 1983. But we must move towards it. We are thinking of constitutional changes of some kind. And as we move towards these changes, we must also move towards a political change in respect of the order.

[Question] Mr Nkomo said that a one-party state cannot be rushed, that it has to come about through agreement, through understanding. Just when everything seemed to be going so well for you, when everybody, including Lord Carrington, thinks your progress has been little short of miraculous, aren't you in danger of rocking the boat, of pushing ahead too fast with your one-party state idea?

[Answer] But there is no one-party state being established. There is a one-party state being talked about.

[Question] You're beating the drum for it very hard, aren't you?

[Answer] Oh yes, but no one is moving that direction. In fact, we have said to our own supporters: The best way to bring about a one-party state is for them to organize effectively in all the areas of the country and get all people to join ZANU. This is what we say consistently to them.

[Question] What does a one party state matter when you are in charge, when you have absolute majority of seats and absolute majority of votes? What does it matter?

[Answer] As a philosophy, we believe it works out better than the philosophy of a multiparty state. We believe their is no need for us to belong to various parties when we can be under a single umbrella, express the same viewpoints under that umbrella and get ourselves committed to the goal of consolidating our independence and bring about socio-economic transformations.

We must concern ourselves about things that matter and little points of difference really should not allow us to segment ourselves.

[Question] So your acceptance of the multiparty state at the time of Lancaster House was a tactical decision?

[Answer] No, no, no, no. We accepted that constitution not because it offered all that we required. There were lots of things where we had to compromise and a constitution is always really... What should I call it? It is an agreement. It is an agreement which puts together various viewpoints. There is lots of give and take and we had to do quite a lot of giving, as we also did a lot of taking.

[Question] You say that a one-party state will only come about through the will of the people and in a constitutional way. Can you therefore give an absolute assurance that you won't change the present constitution except in the way that that constitution itself provides for?

[Answer] We'll change the constitution in the manner in which it should be changed. Obviously, it can't be changed otherwise. How else can we change it?

[Question] You're not going to tear it up?

[Answer] No, why should we?

[Question] Well, if you want to change it, you might be tempted to.

[Answer] No, we are not in the habit of tearing up constitutions. Other people are in that kind of habit and they happen to be the people who are advocating a multiparty state. There has been a one-party state in this country, after all, for years.

[Question] You suggest that by having a one-party state you increase the unity of the country. Now how do you square your desire for unity with your dismissal of Mr Nkomo and your decision to put him on trial?

[Answer] When we unite forces, we are uniting under the belief that they are positive, that they are progressive, that they will lend their fullest support to the idea of unity, the idea of creating peace and calm in our society. But if you incorporate elements which are negative elements which want to destroy the unity you want to forget, then obviously you are doing yourself more harm than good because they are going to work for disunity. And the dismissal of Nkomo should be seen exactly in that light. We feel he has been very negative, in fact destructive, in his approach and has done us a lot of harm. Where we were thinking in terms of uniting our people on the basis of ZANU and ZAPU as a single entity, he's now proved that, in fact, his own intention was to reverse the political order that we've created in the Lancaster House agreement and bring about a coup.

[Question] Where is the evidence that he planned a coup?

[Answer] The arms on his farms. Is that not sufficient evidence? If I found arms in your... pardon?

[Question] Couldn't they be for his defense rather than in a coup?

[Answer] All the arms... what coup? What defense? What defense does he require? The national forces are there to defend anybody who is in danger. The police is a force that maintains law and order and will defend everybody in the country, ensure that security is guaranteed in a manner that they can. And I don't see any reason why, as we were working together, he should have feared that some enemy would attack him, attack Nkomo, what for?

[Question] The process of reconciliation is new. Don't you think it's understandable that his people and he might feel nervous, worried? After all, the rivalries between you and him, your parties, are well-known and have existed for a long time. Those arms were never used. Do you have any plans [as heard] that they intended to use them other than...

[Answer] They were new but they were hoarded -- hoarded against the law of the country. We gave up to a certain date -- I th nk this was a few months ago that the date actually expired -- we gave the people time to surrender whatever arms they had. And we were doing this at the same time as we were uniting ZANLA [Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army] and ZIPRA [Zimbabwe People's Liberation Army] on an equal basis, in a single army. And members of ZIPRA are also in positions of command in the army. But Nkomo saw the arms. All ours were coming into the armory so we don't see any reason as to why he should have felt afraid for himself or afriad for his people. He has violated the law and we hope the law will take its full course.

[Question] What proof is there that Mr Nkomo is party to some plot with South Africa to destabilize Zimbabwe? You've made this plain, too?

[Answer] The only proof is that General Walls said it. He said he organized these meetings.

[Question] But General Walls is a discredited man in your terms, isn't he? I mean you exiled him from the country, and you depend on him for your evidence?

[Answer] Why did we exile him? It was because we read in the statements the fact that he'd been organizing, or thinking of a coup. And that this revelation by him is consistent with what we accused him of.

[Question] You wouldn't call him a very good witness, would you, in your terms, if you already regard him as a discredited man?

[Answer] A very good witness when it comes to attempted coups. Of course, he knows about it, he talked about it, he thought about it himself and he assisted Nkomo in having this meeting at least, or these two meetings with the South Africans.

[Question] So this is your only evidence that Nkomo has been involved in South African coup plans?

[Answer] I've said that is what General Walls gave us to understand, that he himself was instrumental in bringing about two meetings between Mr Nkomo and South African representatives.

[Question] Is Mr Nkomo's real fault, perhaps, that you found arms, which I think you could have found at any time over the last few months if you wanted to, but that he stood in the way of your one-party state idea?

[Answer] No, no, no, no. Look at the whole strategy. Mr Nkomo didn't need as many as 50 properties in the country and of these properties about 25 were farms dotted all over. Now, granted he is an avaricious man, but there is much more than that. We see much more than that in his campaign. He had a whole strategy to distribute arms to these farms for the moment when the coup will be organized or would be set in motion. And there is no doubt in our minds that this was what he was thinking about. And don't forget they also have had, you see, these plans since the liberation struggle. We knew about it -- that they had been preparing themselves for a coup.

[Question] You struck at Mr Nkomo now. But you seized the businesses, farms and properties he owns. But, of course, many of these businesses were actually bought with very small subscriptions by thousands of his guerrillas. Aren't you in danger of alienating their support?

[Answer] That's what he says. Only a few of them were bought that way. Others he's acquired through other means and he had lots of money. We happen to know that.

[Question] Prime Minister, I must just ask you whether you're not -- in the case of Mr Nkomo -- just paying off old scores, delivering the knockout blow to a political rival you began fighting 20 years ago?

[Answer] No, really, I'm not doing that and he knows that of all people, even in my own party, I tried my best to accommodate him, invited him to be president of the state; he turned it down three times. I went to him three times and three times he turned it down. And so I cannot be seen against this background as a man who hates Nkomo. I don't hate him at all.

[Question] What place will there be for whites in a one-party state? Do you really expect them to join your party?

[Answer] No, I expect them to join a national party. My party is ZANU at the moment. What it will become when we establish a one-party state, I don't know, but it will be what the people decide it to be. And we are going to proceed about this one after maximum consultations with other groups. And so really there is as much role for the whites as there is for blacks.

[Question] At the moment, although you receive considerable economic aid from foreign governments and institutions, private investors are not putting their money in yet to any conceivable, any realistic way. Do you really think that detaining MP's, white MP's, without trial is going to encourage a confidence to invest?

[Answer] We are not detaining any MP's without trial.

[Question] At the moment you are.

[Answer] Any MP's who have been arrested have been arrested on evidence that has come to light. And this is the normal system that's been operated here. If a person has committed a crime, he gets arrested; his case is prepared and then he comes to court. And they've already started to come to court and it's not just the whites that are being arrested. And this is where I don't understand the white community. I mean, I don't know what we are expected to do under the circumstances if we get evidence that a Mr Stutterford has actually been conspiring to commit an offense and this offense happens to be a coup d'etat. What are we supposed to do? Just sit back and leave Mr Stutterford go ahead merely because he happens to be white?

[Question] No. I think you are supposed to charge him and bring him speedily to trial. At the moment, there isn't any sign of that.

[Answer] This is it. The reason it's going on and we take our time is because we are gathering the evidence.

[Question] While he remains in detention?

[Answer] Yes, why not? Like everybody else. We don't want to release him so that he can be assisted to go to South Africa.

[Question] You haven't even produced him in court yet. You haven't had him charged.

[Answer] He will be produced in court and we take our own time producing him in court. He will eventually come before a judge for trial.

[Question] Prime minister, I think what observers like us find hard to understand is this: Why, when you have been doing so well at the reconciliation process -- everyone, I think accepts that and gives you immense credit for it -- do you seem now to be cracking down on your political opponents and risking so much? Perhaps you don't feel as secure as you look to us?

[Answer] No. I'm very secure, I can assure you. That to me is a very wrong question. Why should we crack down on those who we catch in the process of attempting to commit crimes? Must we sit back merely because we have pronounced ourselves as committed to a policy of reconciliation? What does reconciliation mean? It takes two to be reconciled. We have said we shall forget the past. We have said we want peace in the country. We have said we want unity. Having said that, we must watch against those who will go against the policy of reconciliation. Who'll negate this policy, who'll negate peace, who'll negate law and order. And this is what we have done, and those who are negating the policy of national reconciliation by resorting to crime we must arrest -- what are we supposed to do?

MUGABE RECEIVES VISITING DPRK VICE PRESIDENT

CA021418 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] The visiting vice president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Comrade Pak Song-chol, held talks with the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, in Salisbury today. No details of the hour-long meeting have been disclosed. Earlier, Comrade Pak toured the Colcom factory in Salisbury, during which he called on the workers to increase production in order to contribute to the development of Zimbabwe. He also called on the management to expand the factory for the benefit of the workers. This afternoon, Comrade Pak and members of his delegation visited Heroes' Acre, accompanied by the minister of information, posts and telecommunications, Comrade Shamuyarira.